

-- [St. Norbert College](#) shows Clinton leading by 8 points in Wisconsin (47-39).

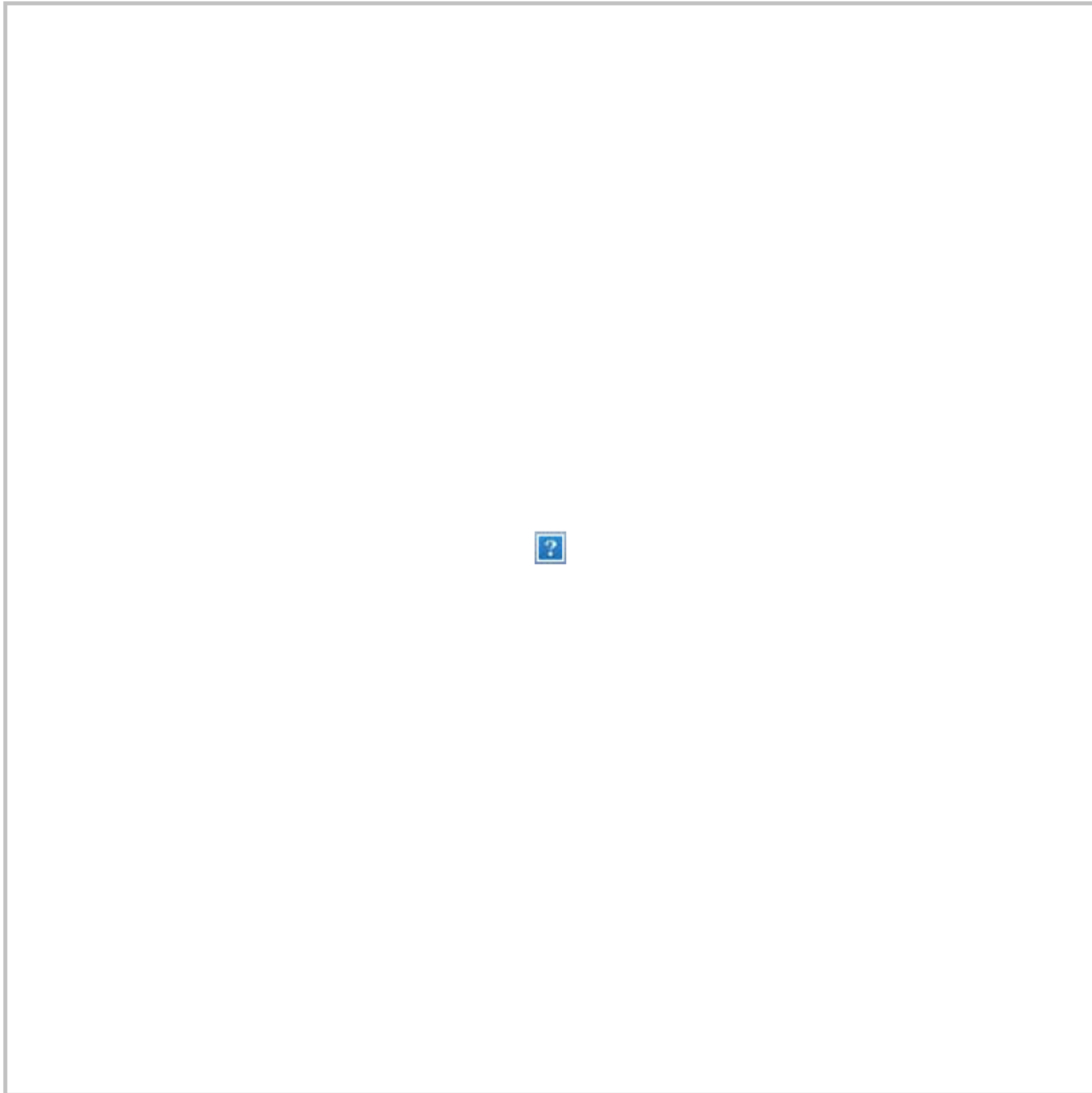
-- [Monmouth University](#) puts Clinton up 7 points in Nevada (47-40). Her surge in the state is largely attributed to younger, non-white voters moving into her column over the past month.

-- A [Fox News national poll](#) shows Clinton up 6 points (45-39).

-- The Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun conducted a poll asking which candidate people thought would be more appropriate as the U.S. president. They found that only 3 percent of Japanese picked Trump, while 73 percent preferred Clinton. The rest had no opinion. The wording is non-traditional, but WaPo pollster Scott Clement checked out the paper's methodology and says it is legit. This will not surprise close poll watchers. [Previous international surveys](#) have found Trump to be exceptionally unpopular.

-- **Fear of an imminent terrorist attack is one of the top concerns of people across the globe**, with most expecting extremist groups will acquire weapons of mass destruction, according to a new poll conducted in eight countries. From [Carol Morello](#): "The [survey, commissioned by the Center for Strategic and International Studies](#) (CSIS), showed that many people think their governments are not doing enough to combat violent extremism. And a majority in every country polled, including the United States, overwhelmingly approved all 21 options presented to them — among them, requiring identification cards for citizens and visitors; rigorous screening of immigrants; bans on incendiary religious speech; and monitoring of

phone calls, emails and social media."



Clinton takes a selfie with the crowd at a voter registration rally at Wayne State University in Detroit. (Reuters/Lucy Nicholson)

## **THE DAILY HILLARY:**

**-- Former FBI agent Brian McCauley pushed back on allegations of a “quid pro quo.” He confirmed that he spoke to a top State Department official about changing the classified status of one of Clinton’s emails, as well as a long-standing FBI request for additional staffing in U.S. embassies, but he denied that any**

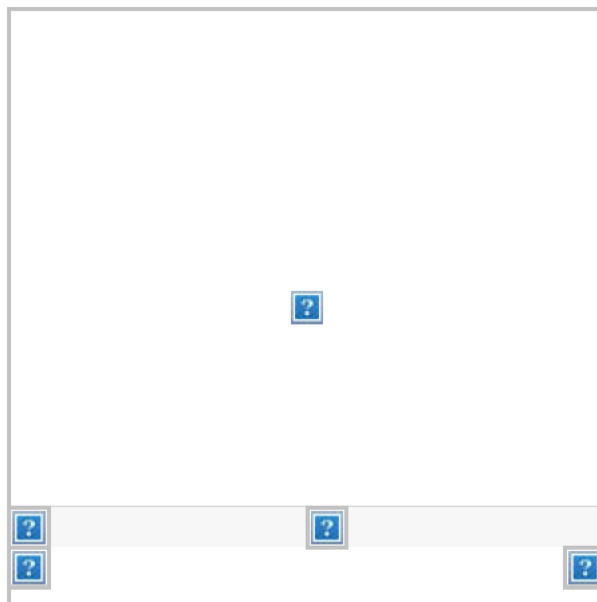
**inappropriate collusion ever took place.** In an interview with [Matt Zapotosky](#), McCauley acknowledged that he offered to do a favor in exchange for another favor, but before he had any inkling of what Kennedy wanted. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015. McCauley said that when he learned the missive concerned the attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, he told Kennedy he could not help him. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015.

**-- “Black activists and organizers, frustrated with the Clinton campaign’s inability to engage young voters, have taken it upon themselves to challenge their peers to consider the consequences if Republicans take the White House,”** [Vanessa Williams reports](#). “They also have encouraged young voters to focus on state and local elections, because those officials make decisions about how police departments and schools are run, issues that more directly affect their lives. Younger African Americans, like many millennials, are not excited about this year’s presidential election ... [but] because Trump’s campaign has laid bare racist attitudes, the seeming indifference of black millennials to the election has sparked broad discussion within the African American community.”

**-- Seventy Nobel Laureates endorsed Clinton, arguing that her election is “crucial for safeguarding freedom and preserving a constitutional government.”** Signatories include world-renowned

experts in science, medicine and economics, such as chemist Peter Agre, economist Robert Shiller, and physicist Robert Woodrow Wilson. Separately, a group of 140 conservative writers urged voters to reject Trump, calling him “most dangerous to our nation’s founding ideals” in an open letter. Several former Republican White House staffers are on the list. ([New York Times](#))

ADVERTISEMENT







John Podesta boards the Clinton campaign plane in White Plains, New York, yesterday en route to Las Vegas. (Lucy Nicholson/Reuters)

-- **An early draft of Clinton's V.P. list:** John Podesta in mid-March emailed Clinton a preliminary list of names to consider for her running mate, organized into what he termed "rough food groups." WikiLeaks posted it yesterday, and [the Journal wrote it up](#):

The first group included her **Latino options**, including Secretary of Labor Tom Perez and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julián Castro.

The second consisted of **black candidates**, including Cory Booker and Eric Holder.

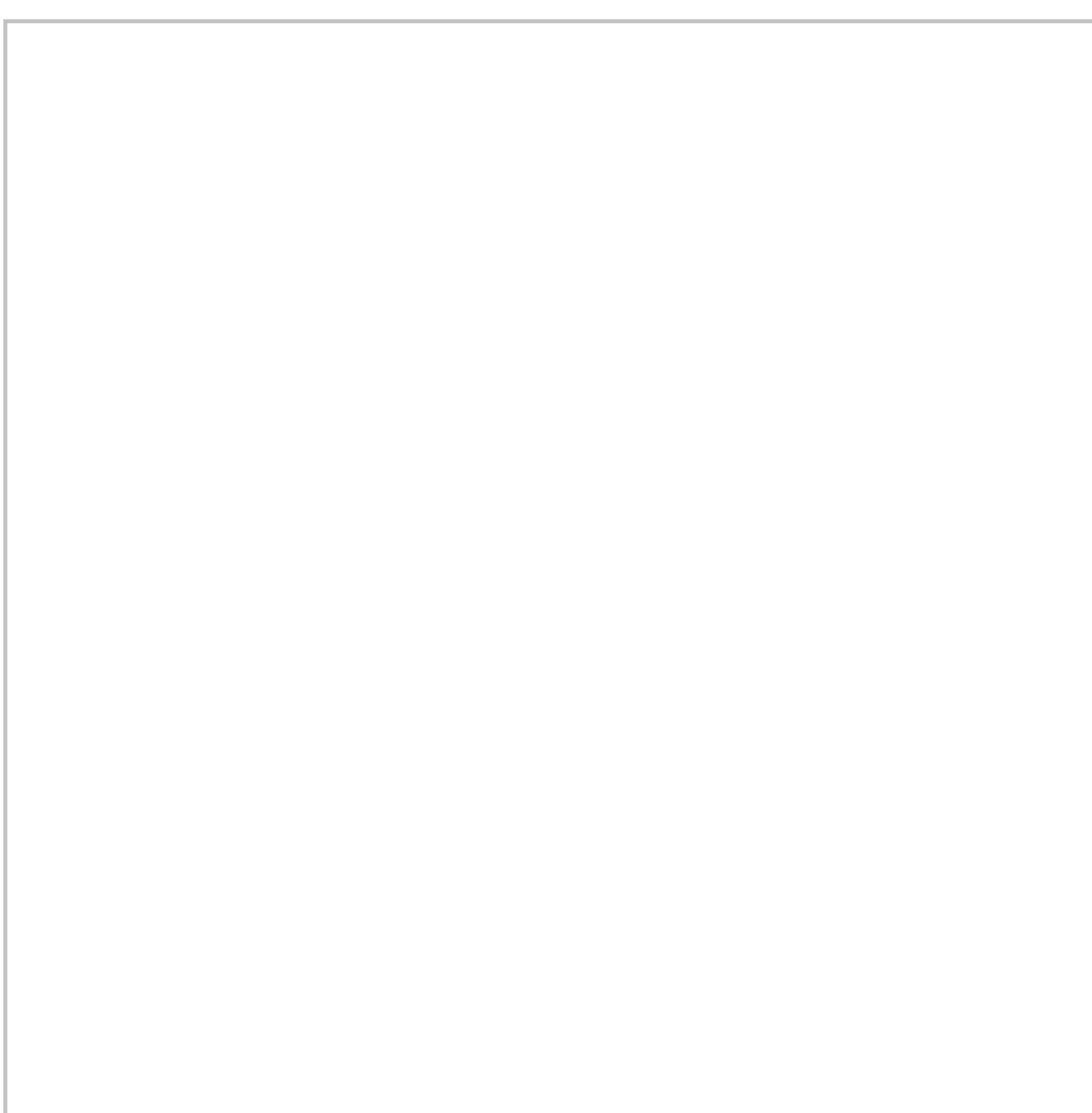
The third was **white men who could help in a swing state**, including Tim Kaine, Terry McAuliffe and Sherrod Brown.

Another section included **seven women**, including Elizabeth Warren and Jeanne Shaheen.

He also suggested **three military names**, including retired Marine Corps Gen. John Allen.

Podesta also floated **corporate options**, including Bill Gates, Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, Michael Bloomberg; Apple CEO Tim Cook and Coca-Cola Co. CEO Muhtar Kent.

The final category had just one name: **Bernie Sanders**.



Melania, Ivanka, Eric and Donald Trump, Jr. wait for the start of the second debate St. Louis. (John Locher/AP)

## **THE DAILY DONALD:**

-- **People Magazine published six stories** from friends and colleagues of Trump accuser **Natasha Stoyneff**, corroborating her accusation that the **Republican nominee forced himself on her in 2005**. Two people who went on the record are now People editors - deputy East Coast editor Mary Green and East Coast editor Liz McNeil. Another is Stoyneff's former journalism professor, who says she called him looking for advice immediately afterwards. And

yet another friend went on the record to back her claims that she ran into Melania Trump on Fifth Avenue after the assault. The report comes as both Donald and Melania have denied the story and threatened legal action.

**-- Video surfaced yesterday of Trump attacking Condi Rice in 2006: "I wish she was a b\*\*ch," he said.** "I don't care if she's a lovely woman. I want somebody that can go and make deals. She goes to countries, nothing ever happens. Except sound bytes." When asked if she had any response to the New York Daily News report on Trump's remarks, the former secretary of state emailed [CNN](#): "Can't wait until November 9!"

**-- Trump's alleged misconduct has started a national conversation about sexual assault.** From [Katie Zezima](#): "The debate has been particularly painful for many victims of sexual assault, who now must endure nonstop coverage of allegations of groping and kissing without consent — along with backlash against the women who made the claims about Trump. But in the 2016 presidential election, the issue has become sharply divided along partisan lines, including claims by some Trump allies that the behavior described by Trump's accusers ... might not be considered assault. The resistance against the accusers is particularly awkward for the Trump campaign, which simultaneously argues that women who accused Bill Clinton of wrongdoing years ago should be believed." GOP strategist Ashley O'Connor said that Trump is essentially saying, "You need to believe the people who have come forward and accused [Bill]. You need to believe that [Hillary] was attacking these women. But don't believe the women who have come

forward against me.”

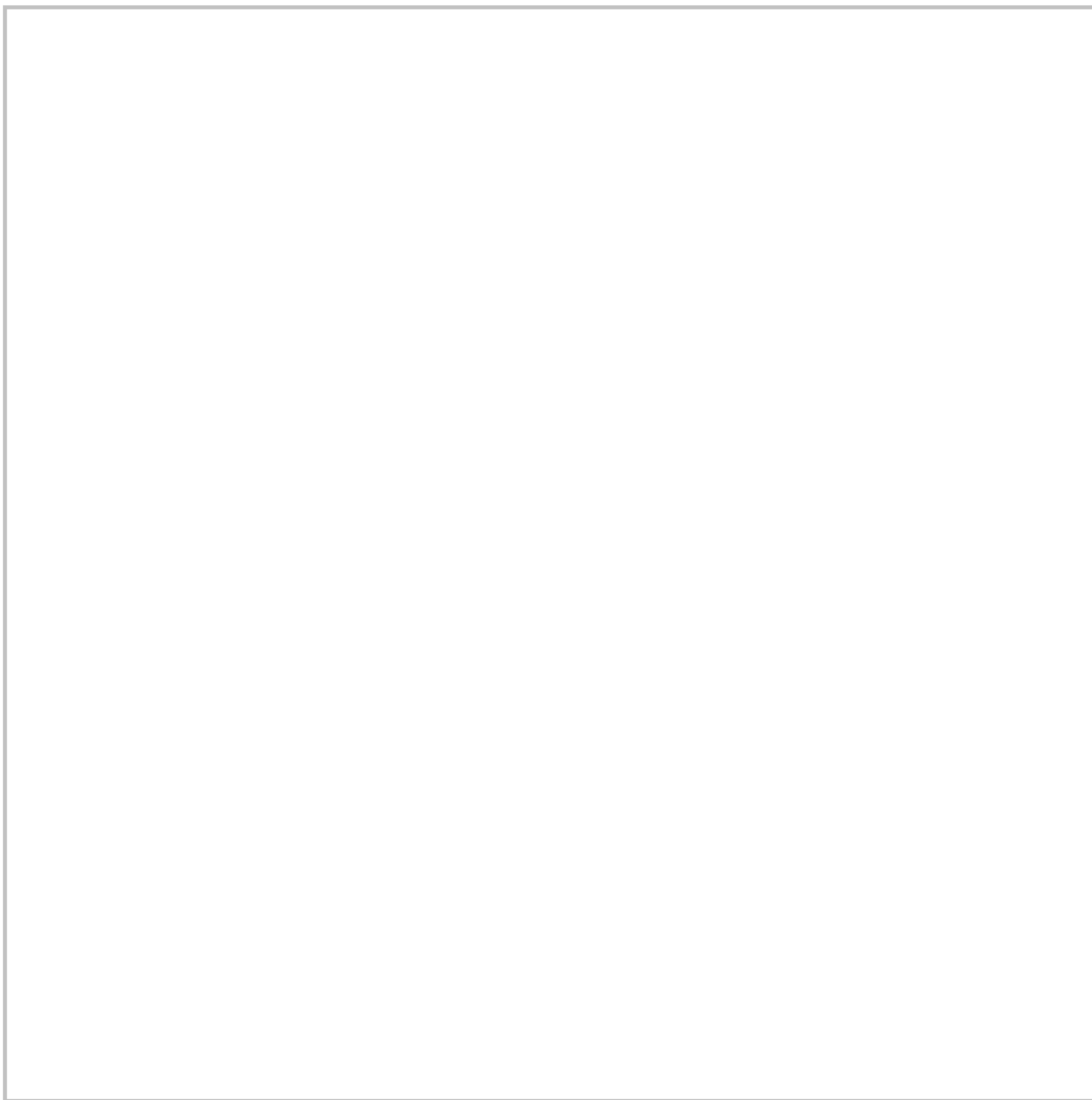
**-- Melania is taking a page from the old Hillary playbook:** “Until now, Melania Trump has declined to fulfill the mundane tasks of political wives, saying her duties to her young son are more important than the demand that a spouse go along for the ride to ‘humanize’ a candidate,” [Karen Tumulty writes](#). “Now, however, she has found herself in a time-honored duty for a political wife when a sex scandal hits — cleanup. [But] even as she defends her husband, [Melania] is willing to go only so far: In a moment where the script would appear to call for her to share a little more about ‘the man I know,’ she offered no personal glimpses of their lives. There was nothing more revealing than what one might hear in a campaign ad — outside, perhaps, her observation that she feels like she is living with two boys, not one.”

**-- Ivanka addressed her father’s lewd 2005 remarks for the first time, telling [Fast Company](#) that his conversation with Billy Bush was “clearly inappropriate and offensive.”** “I’m glad that he acknowledged this fact with an immediate apology to my family and the American people,” she added in a statement.

**-- Donald Jr. has made a series of offensive statements during interviews with shock-jock radio hosts.** CNN’s Andrew Kaczynski unearthed a [trove of controversial remarks](#) from the candidate’s son:

- **He joked about the Aurora movie theater shooting *on the same day 12 people were killed*:** After footage was played from a witness recounting the tragedy, Trump Jr. quipped that the survivor will still give the film “two thumbs up.”

- **He joked about child abuse at beauty pageants:** "They yell at the kids like, yeah 'You didn't do good, you forgot to turn! You forgot your turn!'" a host said, depicting the role of a stage parent. "The kids, they're crying," Trump Jr. said. "I just wanna play with Barbie." "She beats me when you're not here," said the host. "She's like limping," added Trump Jr., mocking a child's voice. "Help me, help me." **Trump Jr. added of the moms at beauty pageants, "They're all fat. Ugly."**
- **On not being able to mock overweight people:** "By the way you can't ... even make fat jokes now ... that's almost the worst one," he said. "It's easier to, like, do a racial thing, than it is a fat one because everyone knows they're fat and they get really offended."



Trump tells supporters to 'watch' St. Louis, Philadelphia and Chicago for voter fraud

**-- Doubling down on his rigged election rhetoric, Trump yesterday provided his supporters with a list of three cities where they should watch for corruption on Election Day.** "Take a look at St. Louis. Take a look at Philadelphia. Take a look at Chicago," Trump said in Colorado. "Look, look, if nothing else, people are going to be watching on November 8. Watch Philadelphia. Watch St. Louis. Watch Chicago, watch Chicago. Watch so many other places." (Two of those cities are in states that are not considered competitive, [Jenna Johnson notes](#).)

**-- Local election officials are panicking that Trump's reckless rhetoric will lead his supporters to bring guns to polling places, but they're mostly powerless to do anything about it:** "The Prince William County (Virginia) electoral board ... considered seeking a one-day ban on weapons at polling places located on private property but was rebuked by a gun-friendly state legislator," [Patricia Sullivan reports](#). "Del. Robert G. Marshall (R-Prince William) sent a letter to the board pointing out that it has no power to ban guns from polling places except for schools and courthouses, where weapons are prohibited by state law. ... Virginia's election officials have been discussing on their private email list the possibility of intimidation or violence Nov. 8 and talking about what to do about unruly observers. ... Seventy of Prince William's 91 polling places are in schools, with the remaining 21 in churches, fire halls and community centers. Firearms are allowed in county government buildings, such as fire stations, libraries and community centers."

**-- Trump called for a Constitutional amendment to put in place congressional term limits, but he provided no details about the details.** ([Jenna Johnson](#))





Supporters of Nicolas Maduro display a giant inflatable dummy depicting late President Hugo Chavez in Caracas. (Juan Barreto/Getty)

-- **Venezuelan journalist and political scientist [Francisco Toro](#) argues that Trump really is much more like Nicolás Maduro than Hugo Chavez:** “Again and again, since taking over in 2013, Maduro has run roughshod over the constitution in ways Chávez never dared to ... [and] for Venezuelans, the past year has been an object lesson in how dangerous this approach can be. Last week, we followed this crazy dynamic off the deep end, when the court overturned 800 years of constitutional practice, dating back to the original Magna Carta, ruling that when the constitution says the legislative branch has to

vote on the national budget, it means the president can just approve budgets on his own. ... **Having your democracy commit suicide under the lure of a charismatic demagogue is not the kind of experience you can fully make sense of unless you've lived it in your own skin.** Before 2016, no explanation I could give my American friends was enough. Now, my American friends can just turn on CNN and watch it happening live.”

### **THE BATTLEGROUND:**

-- **A civil rights group filed a federal lawsuit to force Virginia to extend its voter registration period, after the state's online system crashed on Monday.** The technological glitch prohibited registration from an unknown number of participants. Some have estimated the number to be in the “tens of thousands.” ([Laura Vozzella](#))

-- **Pro-Clinton super PAC Priorities USA announced it will begin airing ads in two Senate races and will start airing television and radio ads in Georgia to boost Clinton.** “New ads will support Gov. Maggie Hassan in the New Hampshire Senate race against Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte and Katie McGinty in the Pennsylvania Senate race against Sen. Patrick J. Toomey,” [Abby Phillip writes](#). “The super PAC also plans a new seven-figure television ad buy in Georgia in addition to new radio ads targeted at African American voters. The state has not been won by the Democratic presidential nominee since 1992.”

-- **DNC officials issued an apology after one of its campaign buses was recorded illegally dumping sewage into a Georgia**

**storm drain, calling the leak an “honest” but “unacceptable” mistake.** The driver of the bus – adorned with larger-than-life faces of Clinton and Kaine – said the vehicle’s sewage tank was full and leaking out. A guy in an auto parts repair store spotted him and record it. ([Katie Mettler](#))

**-- The race for Rep. Barbara Comstock’s House seat in Northern Virginia has tightened.** From [Jenna Portnoy](#): The Cook Political Report is moving the race up to toss-up, while the Rothenberg & Gonzales Political Report already considers it a toss-up district, tilting to the Republican. “Experts consider the district among the most competitive in the nation despite lackluster fundraising numbers from Democratic challenger LuAnn Bennett and evidence [Trump] might not be the anchor on down-ballot candidates some had expected,” Portnoy writes. The two will face off this morning for the final debate of the campaign.

**-- “[Clinton Challenges Trump for a Traditional Republican Bloc: White Catholics](#),” by the New York Times's Jason Horowitz in Philly:** “Since the election of Ronald Reagan, white Roman Catholics have flocked to Republican nominees for a raft of reasons, including their stances on social issues like abortion and same-sex marriage. But this year, something seems different. ‘Trump is the exception to the rule,’ said 67-year-old Carol Robinson, leaving an afternoon prayer meeting in Philadelphia. ‘He’s a loose cannon.’ Roman Catholics are the country’s second-largest religious group after evangelical Protestants, and they are as diverse as the country itself, with young liberals, cultural conservatives and, increasingly, Democratic-leaning Hispanics.”

**One quiet influencer could be Pope Francis**, wh emphasizes inclusion and the welfare of the poor over divisive issues like abortion and homosexuality. In February, he suggested Trump “is not a Christian.”

**-- Harry Reid reflects on when Trump used to be one of his donors in [an interview with Paul Kane](#):** “Reid found a priceless piece of memorabilia recently while sorting through 34 years of congressional papers. It’s a picture of Reid with [Trump], inside the real-estate developer’s Manhattan home, both men smiling. He’s pretty sure it’s from 1992, when [he] was running his first Senate reelection bid and when [Trump] was happy to help Democrats. Reid appreciated Trump’s generosity. ‘He wasn’t much of a big shot then, neither was I,’ Reid recalled ... Over the years when Trump was a reliable donor to Senate Democrats, Reid saw no signs of a future Republican presidential candidate who he would later eviscerate as a ‘racist’ and a ‘human leech.’ Now, heading into political twilight, the former boxer is clearly relishing what is essentially his last campaign through attacks on Trump ... ‘I’m kind of an unusual politician,’ he said.”



Libertarian Lucy Brenton, Democrat Evan Bayh and Republican Todd Young debate in Indianapolis last night. (AP Photo/Michael Conroy, Pool)

## **SENATE DEBATES:**

-- **“Indiana’s Senate race got personal Tuesday,” the [Indianapolis Star’s](#) Maureen Groppe and James Briggs write.**

“After weeks of attacking each other in campaign commercials, former Sen. Evan Bayh and GOP Rep. Todd Young directly accused each other of not representing Hoosiers’ interests in their [sole debate] ... Young repeatedly charged Bayh, a Democrat, with following the orders of Washington insiders and looking out for

himself. 'Evan Bayh took the money and ran,' Young said after criticizing Bayh's vote for the Affordable Care Act. 'He joined a major lobbying firm in Washington, D.C., and he represented clients that needed relief from the very problem he created from Obamacare.' Bayh said Young has voted against the needs of veterans, seniors and workers who are losing their jobs to overseas competition. And he accused Young of lying about his record. 'Congressman Young has told so many whoppers here tonight, it's hard to keep track,'" Bayh said.

**-- The final debate between Sen. Ron Johnson and Democrat Russ Feingold also turned personal, the [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel's Bill Glauber reports](#):** "Skirmishing over campaign finance, national security, the economy and the presidential candidates, the men engaged in a feisty 90-minute clash ... With polls showing a tight race, there was little room for error as the candidates sought to shore up their base support while reaching out to the small number of undecided voters. In a sense, the debate was six years in the making as the two men entered the closing stretch of their rematch race. Throughout the debate, Feingold claimed that Johnson 'didn't have a plan' on issues. Johnson fired back, 'Senator Feingold is always going to have a plan to grow government.'" "I will stand with the people of this state," Feingold said. "Senator Johnson stands with the corporations, the billionaires and the multi-millionaires." In rebuttal, Johnson said he "understands what it's like to work": "I'm the working man," he said. "I've worked hard all my life."



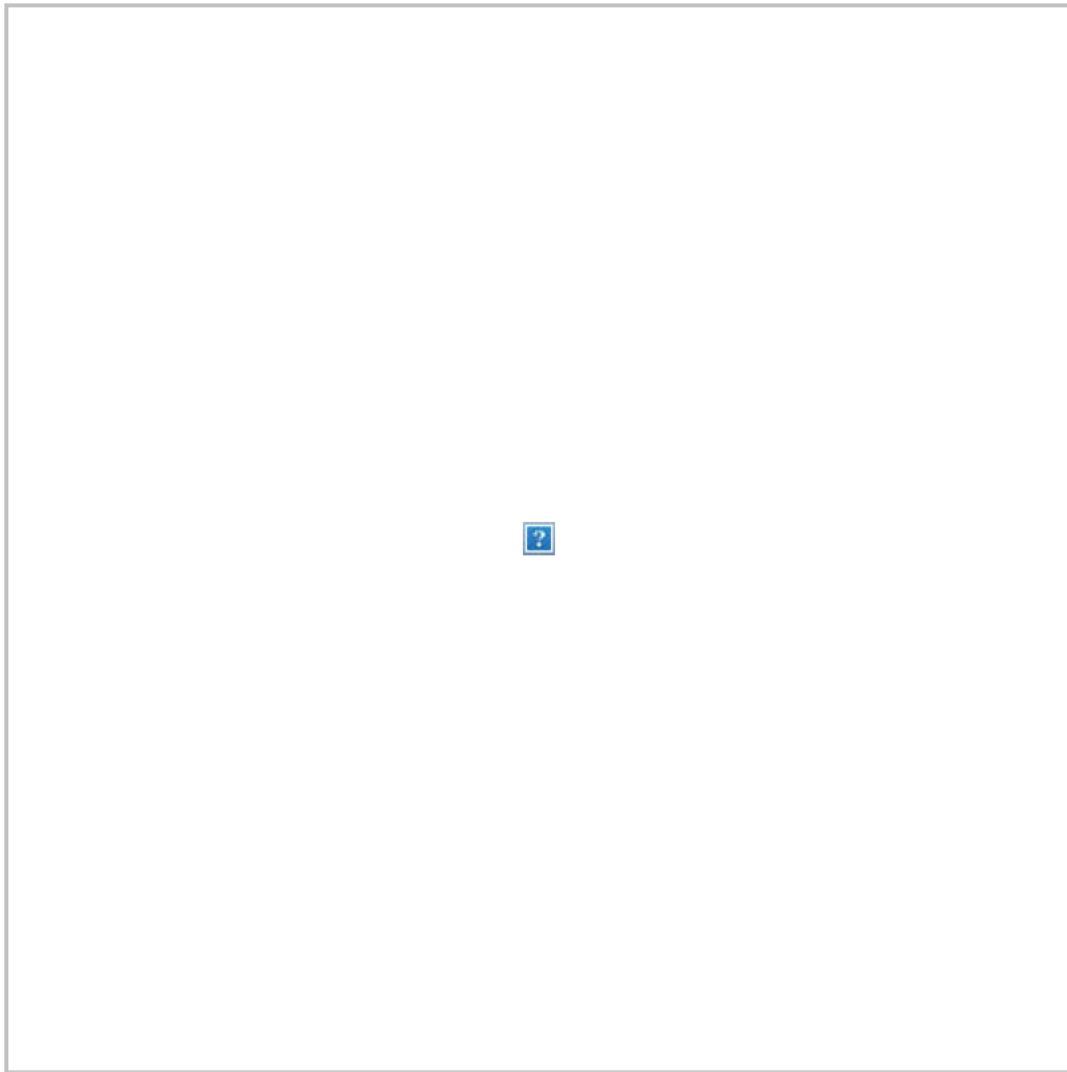
A pan handler sits with a "Give me \$1 or I'm voting for Trump" sign in Manhattan.  
(Carlo Allegri)

### **IT'S SILLY SEASON:**

**-- A Wisconsin woman was arrested after she spread peanut butter on 30 cars that she believed belonged to Trump supporters. But it turns out the cars actually belonged to members of a local conservation club!** "Witnesses said 32-year-old Christina Ferguson stormed into the club meeting on Monday night, holding what a Portage County deputy's report described as a 'family-size jar of low-sodium, creamy natural Jif,'" [HuffPost](#) reports. "Officers

said Ferguson grew emotional as she explained how much she loved Clinton and hated Trump. She then explained why she'd misused peanut butter. 'Peanut butter is better than fire-bombing,' the officer quoted her as saying. She added that Trump wants to fire-bomb everybody in other countries."

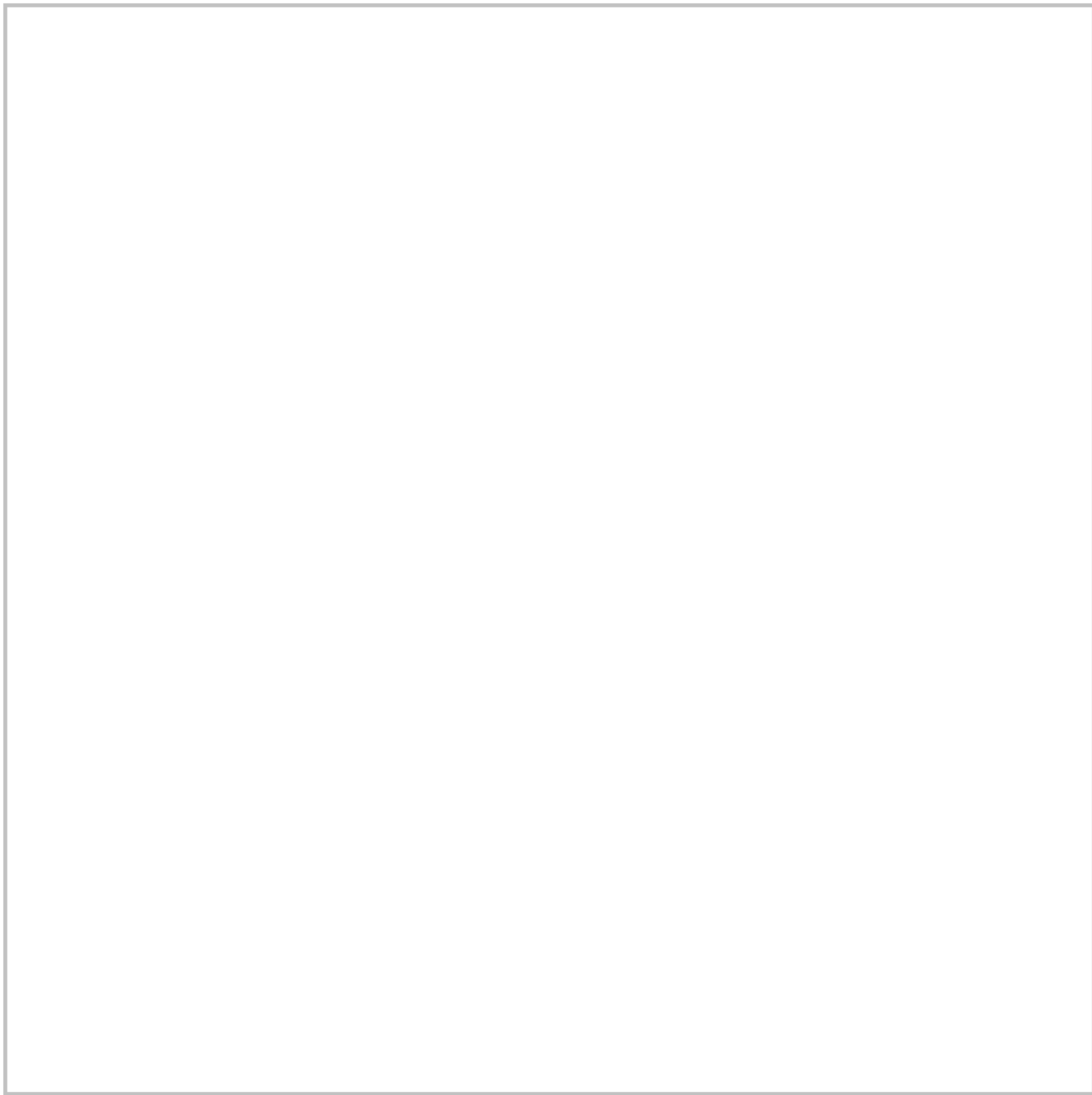
**-- A naked, hoofed statue of Hillary prompted a scuffle in Manhattan. An outraged Clinton supporter destroyed it while the artist tried in vain to save it, the [New York Post](#). (Travis Andrews)**



**SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:**

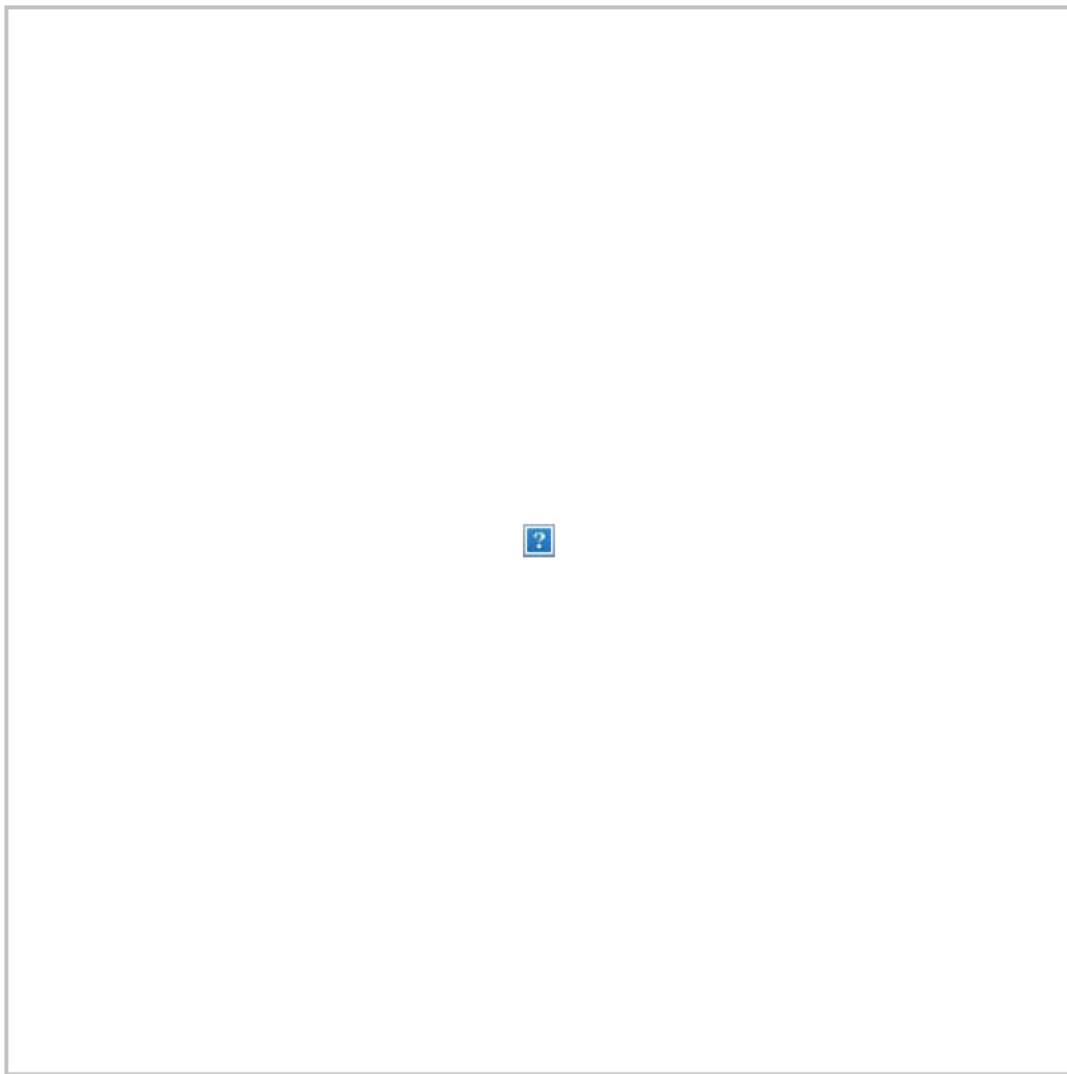


**Over 62 million people on Facebook in the U.S. posted about, shared, liked or commented on content related to Trump over 931 million times in the last month.** The chart below shows the unique number of people on Facebook engaging in the conversation about each candidate – as well as the number of interactions those people generated. Interactions represents the total aggregate number of likes, posts, comments and shares made about a particular candidate within the timeframe. The interactions figure includes not only the activity on the candidate's page, but all of the likes, posts, comments and shares about that candidate from throughout Facebook:

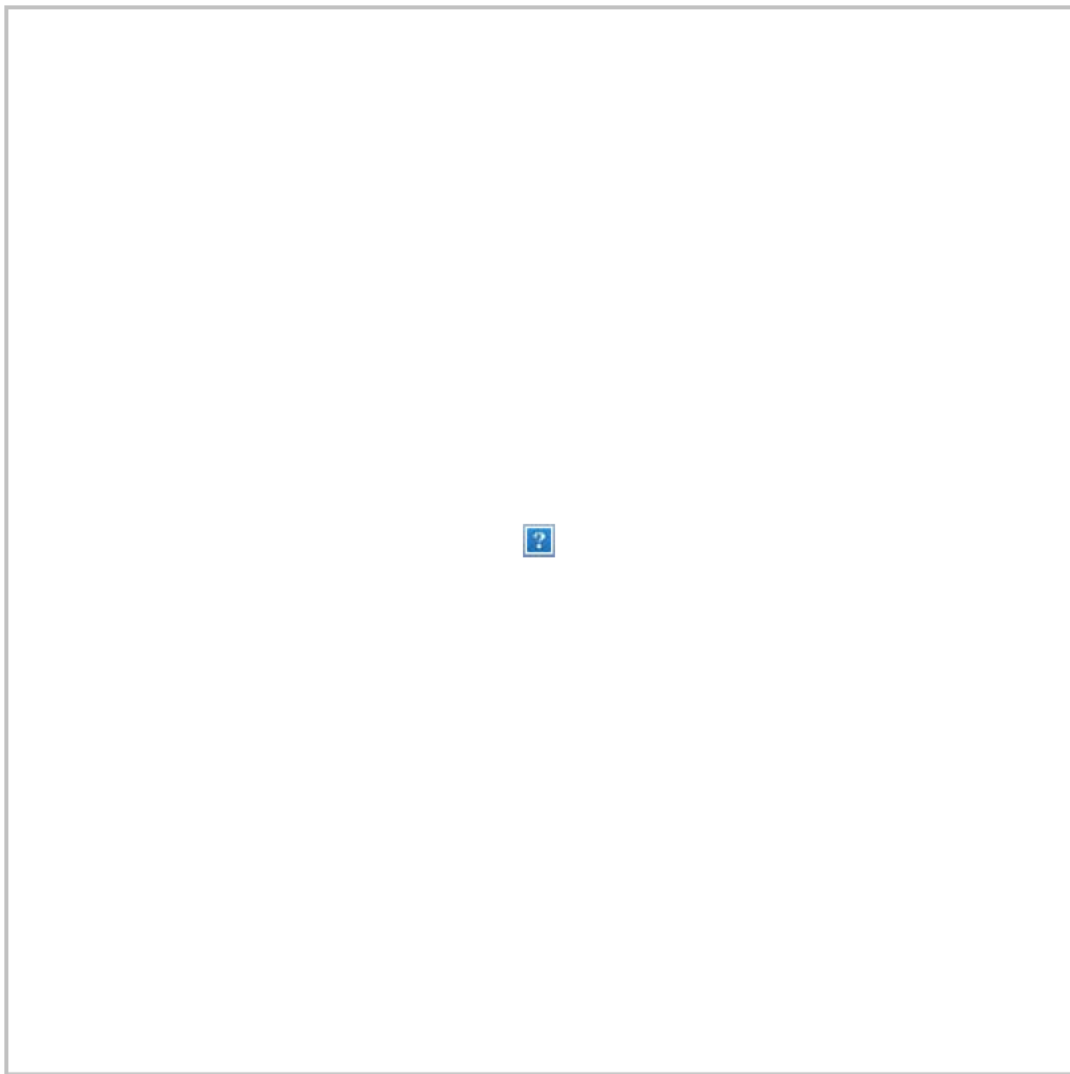


**The top five most talked about political topics on Facebook over the past month:** 1. Crime & Criminal Justice; 2. Religion; 3. Taxes; 4. Government Ethics; 5. Racial Issues.

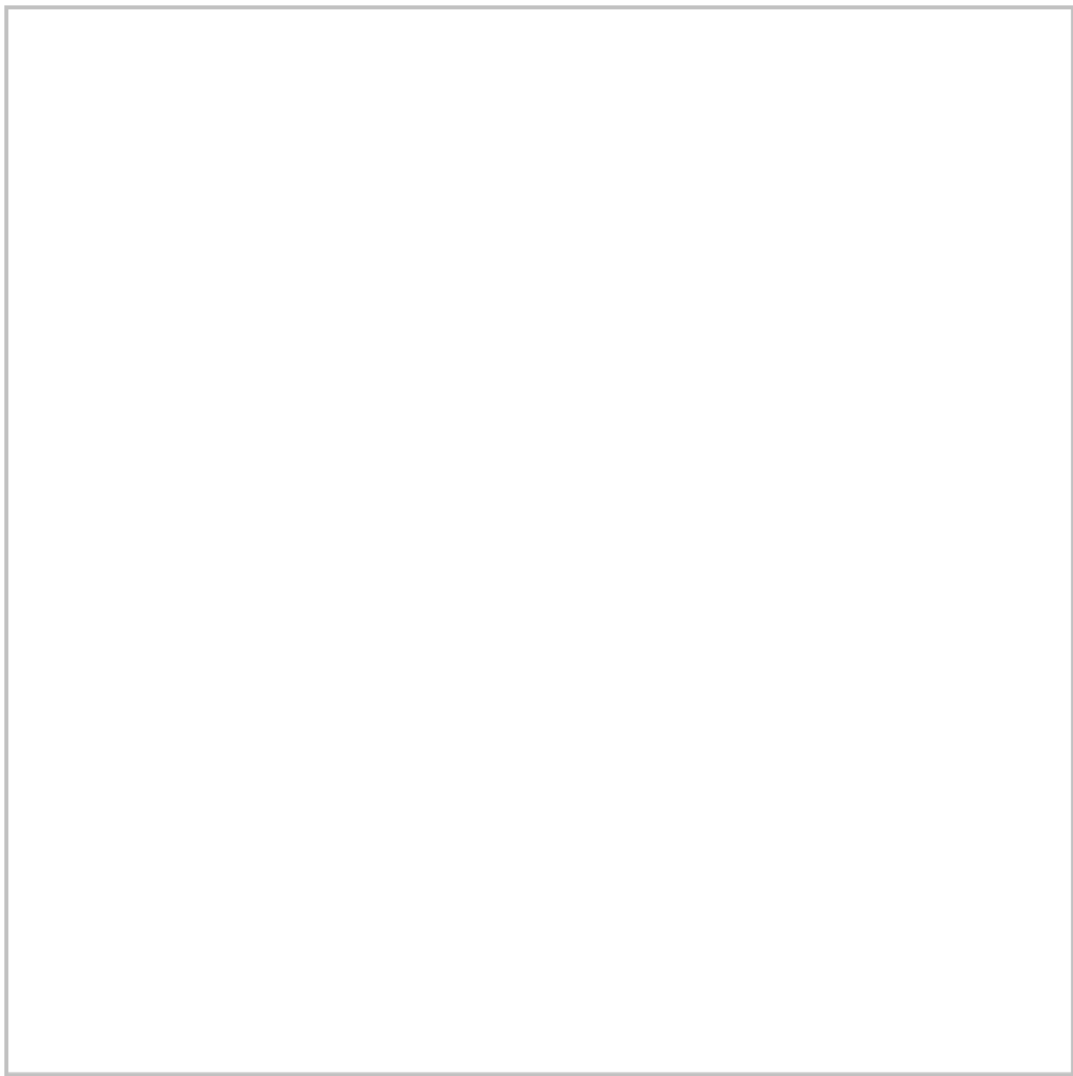
The Onion is on the lookout for late-breaking Trump news:



Coming soon to a Las Vegas billboard:

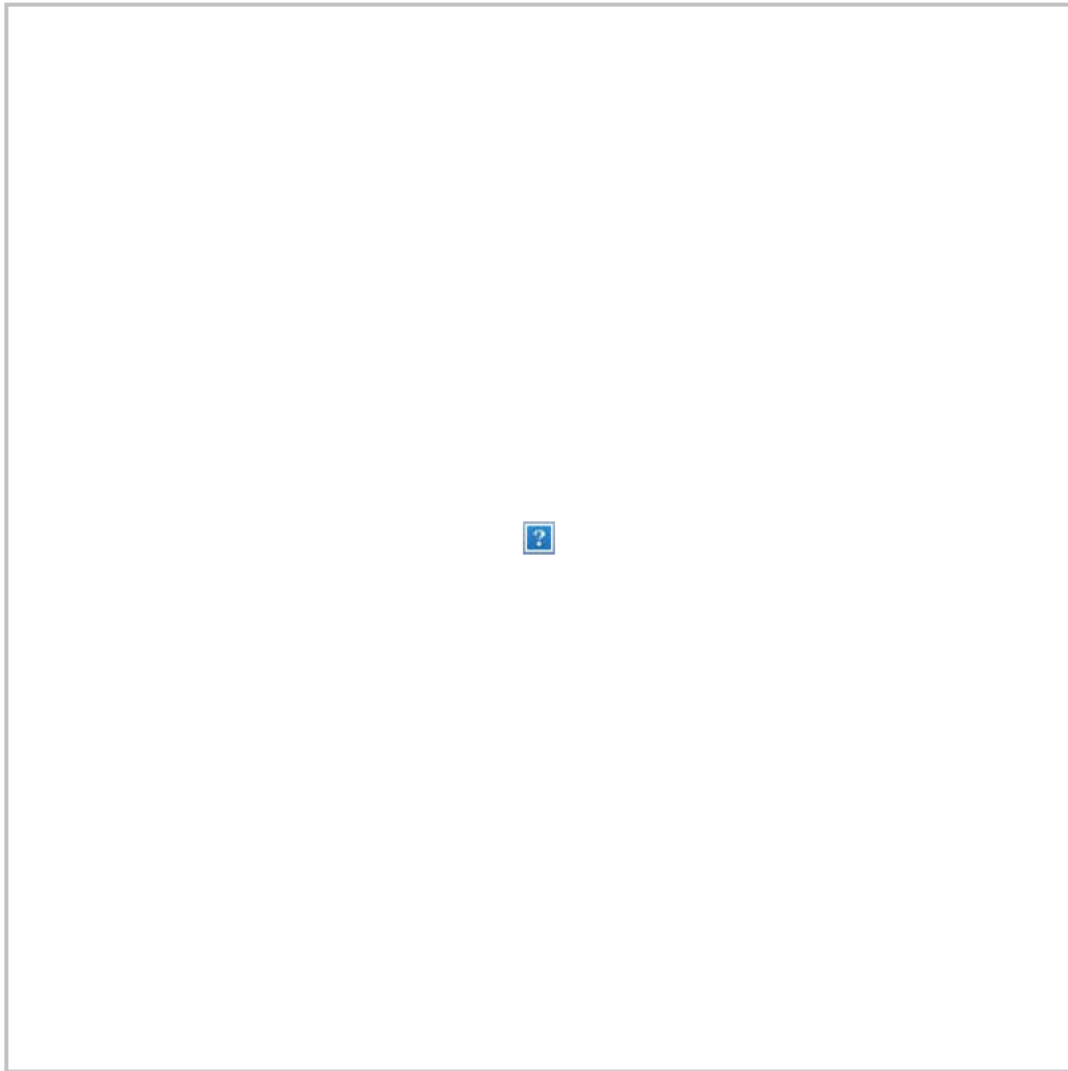


Fox's Sean Hannity and CNN's Brian Stelter went back-and-forth on the issue of voter fraud:

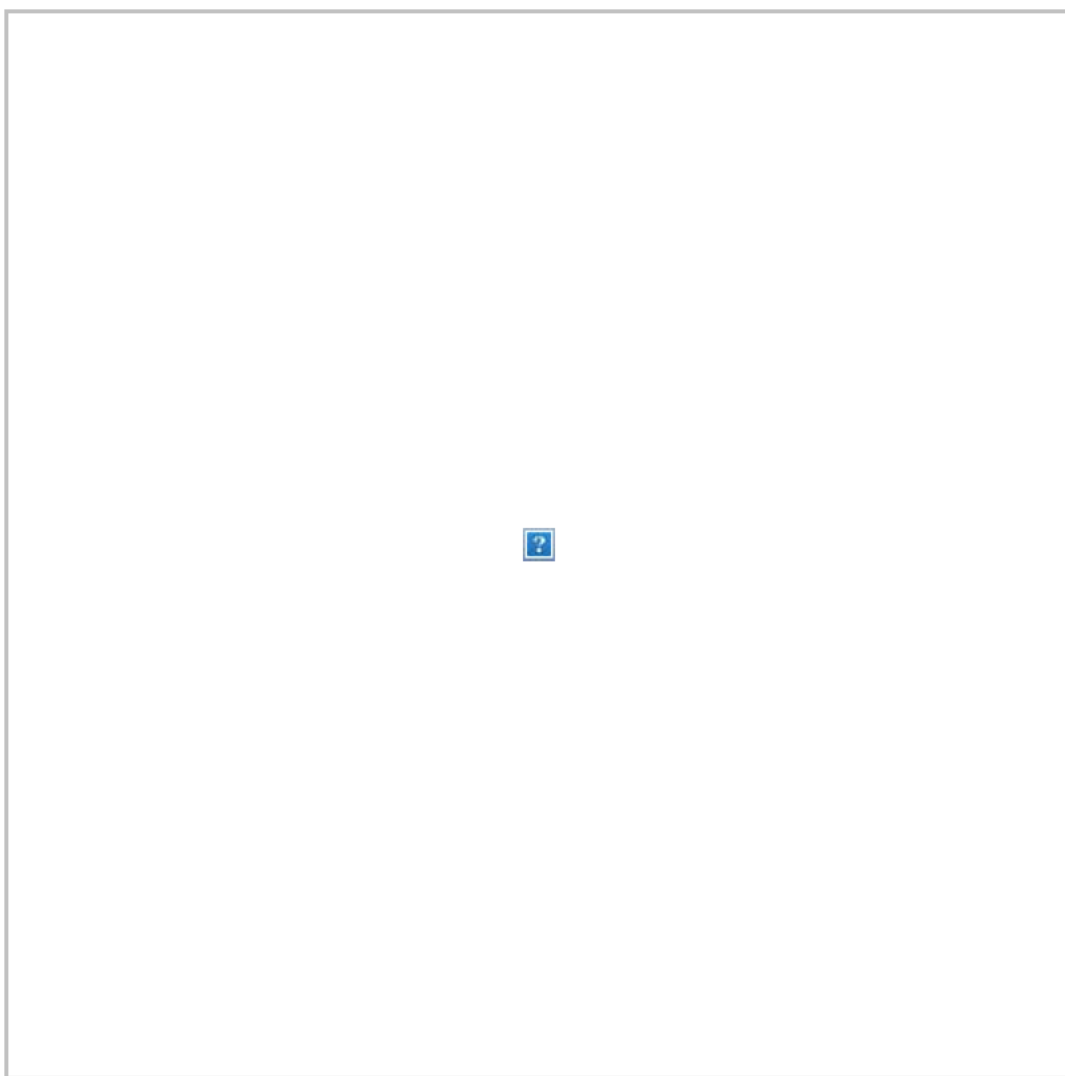


Mike Pence observed some of the damage from the firebombing in North Carolina and called it "an act of political terrorism":

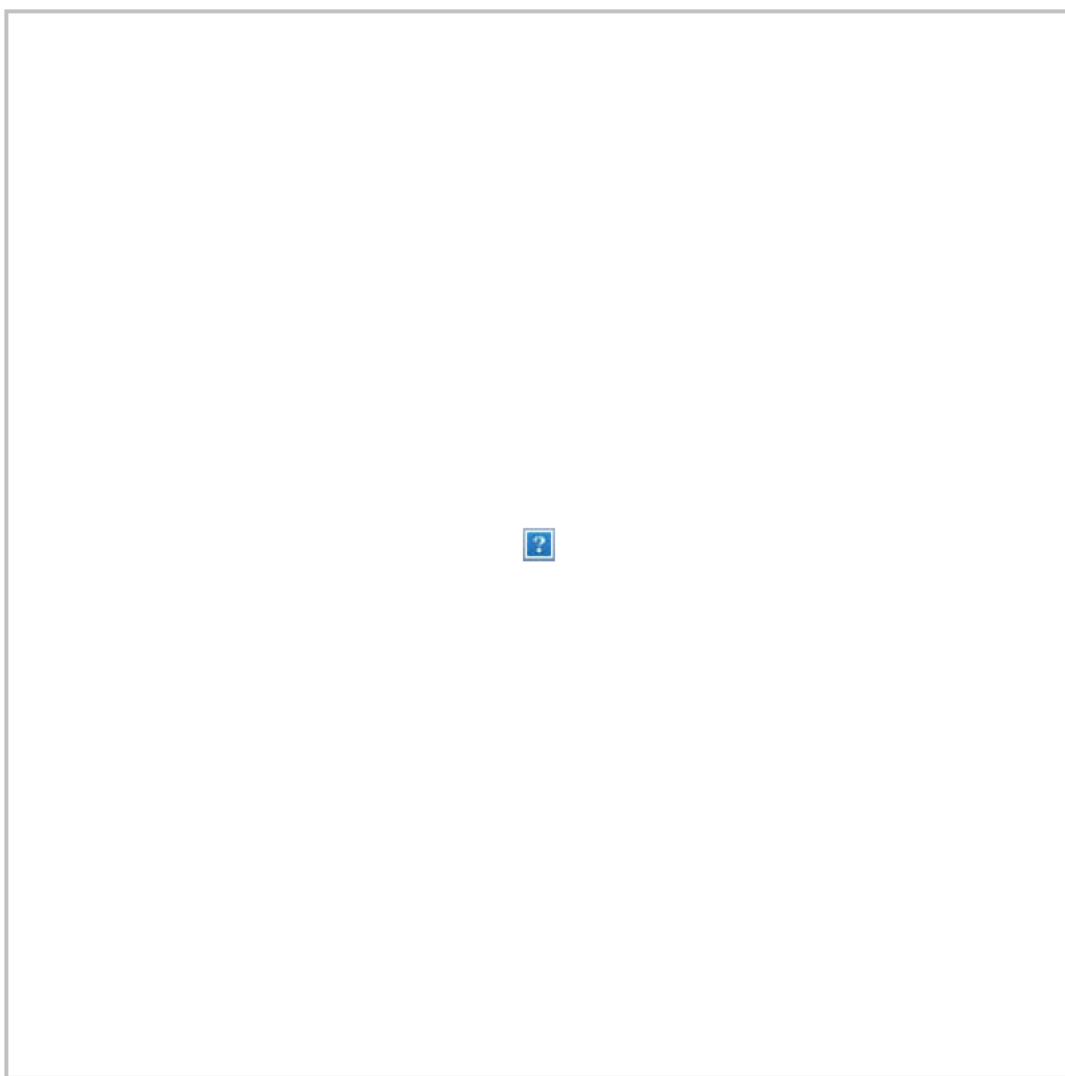
[Vogue endorsed Clinton](#), making the first ever political endorsement in the magazine's history. "We understand that Clinton has not always been a perfect candidate, yet her fierce intelligence and considerable experience are reflected in policies and positions that are clear, sound and hopeful," the magazine's editors write.



This is pretty funny:

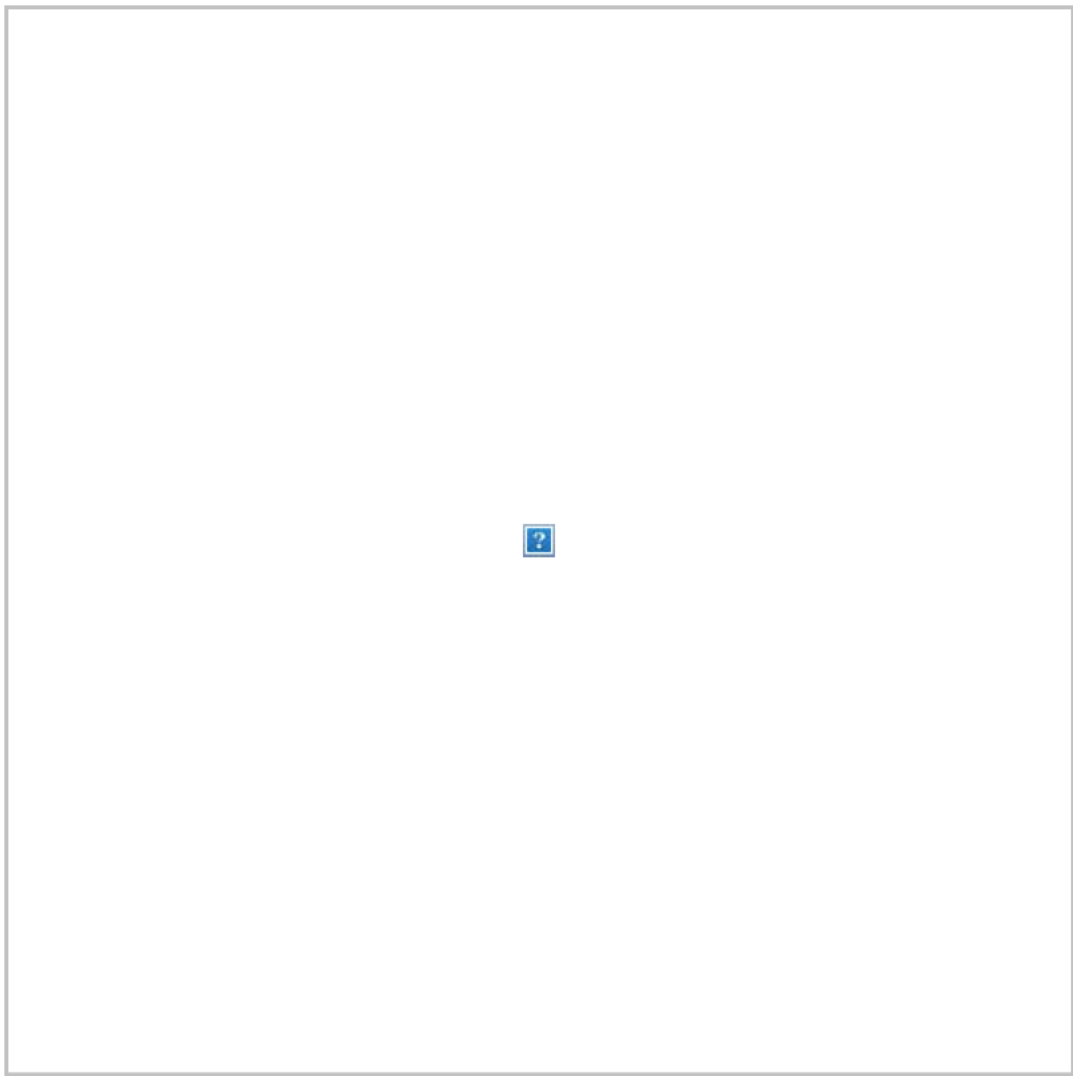


Wyclef Jean posted this photo:

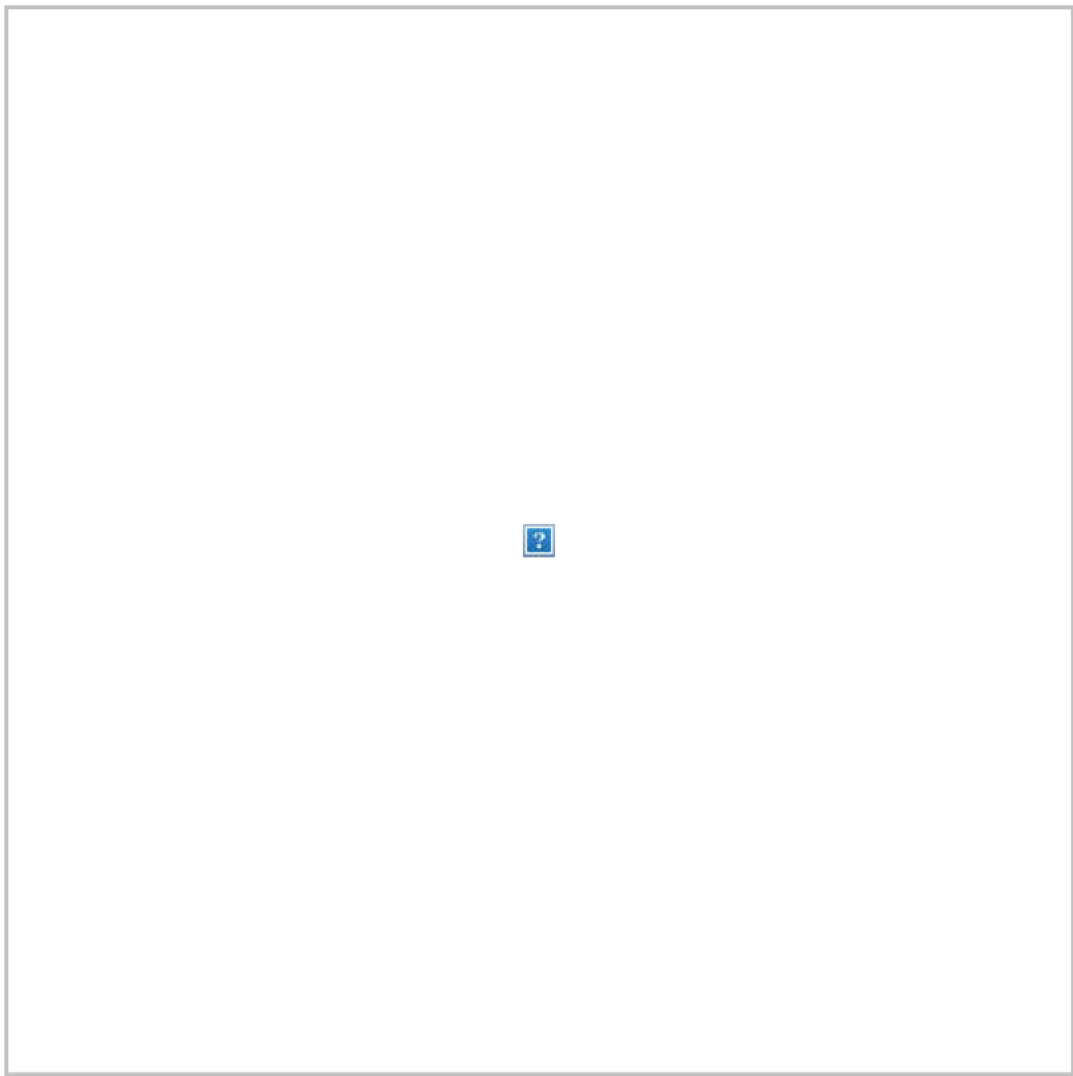


Debra Messing got a thank-you note from the White House:





Jason Chaffetz took this selfie while camping:



Kevin McCarthy went to a Dodgers game:



### GOOD READS FROM ELSEWHERE:

-- New York Times, "[David Letterman \(and His Beard\) Shop at Target These Days](#)," by Dave Itzkoff: "Why does David Letterman have a beard? To put it more precisely: Why did Mr. Letterman, after stepping down from CBS's 'Late Show' and a 33-year career ... spend the past year and a half cultivating a fleecy and prodigious mound of facial hair ...? Did he grow these imposing bristles to keep the world at bay while he withdrew into retirement?" Was it his way of saying he was no longer the man who had spent 6,000 evenings reading Top 10 lists and interviewing 20,000 guests? **Actually, he**

**explained, 'I just got tired of shaving every day, but then it became something else, and I'm not quite sure what it became.'**

In his dry Midwestern delivery, tinged with a new and unaccustomed element of wistfulness, he said: 'The beard is a good reminder to me that that was a different life. I'm hopeful that I will either find something else, or something else will be presented to me.' ... With years of vitality left, he has been trying, since his 'Late Show' farewell in May 2015, to figure out what his next step should be."

**-- National security reporter Walter Pincus prepared a list of pressing foreign policy questions that Trump and Clinton should answer in tonight's debate.** Some highlights from [his column for the Cipher Brief](#):

- **For Trump, on Russia:** "At the last debate, despite your being briefed by intelligence analysts and after Director of National Intelligence James Clapper publicly identified Russia as doing the hacking, you said [Clinton] 'doesn't know if it's the Russians doing the hacking,' and then added, 'Maybe there is no hacking.' Do you not trust the U.S. intelligence community determination ... that the Russians are behind the hacking of the [DNC] emails?"
- **For Clinton, on Syria:** "You are advocating a no-fly zone and safe zones. Define just what would be involved on the part of the U.S. and its allies – including forces in the air and on the ground [for protection] ... Would you seek congressional authorization to use American armed forces which will have to strike at Syrian government targets, something normally considered an act of war?"

**For Trump, on Syria:** On Oct. 9, you said “Syria is no longer Syria. Syria is Russia and it’s Iran.’ You also said Assad forces and the Russians in Syria were fighting ISIS, and implied if you were president you would no longer support any anti-Assad forces. Instead you would join with the Russians, Iranians and Assad regime in fighting ISIS. Would that be your policy for Syria? And if the Assad regime, supported by Russian and Iranian military forces, attempted to regain control over all of Syria, would you stand aside and let that happen?”

## HOT ON THE LEFT

## HOT ON THE RIGHT

**Two little known but influential Democratic operatives lost their jobs after edited footage from a video sting by conservative activist James O’Keefe found them entertaining “dark notions” about how to win elections. From Dave Weigel: “Footage from the video shows [Scott] Foval, a Wisconsin-based politico with a long resume, bragging about a litany of political dirty tricks. In the first video, he boasts of ‘conflict engagement in the lines of Trump rallies,’ takes credit for the violence that canceled a Trump rally at the University of Illinois in Chicago (and) **admits****

**he's paid 'mentally ill' people to start trouble."**

Robert Creamer also announced he is stepping down from the work he was doing for a progressive consulting group following release of the tape. On Tuesday night's episode of "Hannity," two campaign representatives said that the tapes "validated everything" Trump had said about the possible threat of the election being stolen.

#### **DAYBOOK:**

**On the campaign trail:** Trump and Clinton debate in Las Vegas. Tim Kaine speaks in Upper Arlington and Springfield, Ohio and Asheville, N.C.; Bernie Sanders rallies Clinton supporters in Reno, Nev. Pence speaks in Durango, Colo.

**At the White House:** Obama has no public events scheduled. Biden speaks about the Cancer Moonshot at the SAP Global CEO Summit in New York. Later, he travels to Boston to speak again about the project at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute.

**On Capitol Hill:** The Senate and House are out.

#### **QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

Obama mocked Trump for griping about a rigged election: "You start whining before the game's even over?"



## NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:

-- “A solidly summerlike day, with partly to mostly sunny skies and noticeable humidity,” the [Capital Weather Gang forecasts](#).

“Highs head for the mid-80s, with light winds from the west-southwest around 5-10 mph. The record highs to beat for the day? — 88 at DCA, 83 at Dulles, and 82 at BWI.”

-- The Wizards [beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 96-91](#).

-- The [Capitals beat the Colorado Avalanche 3-0](#)

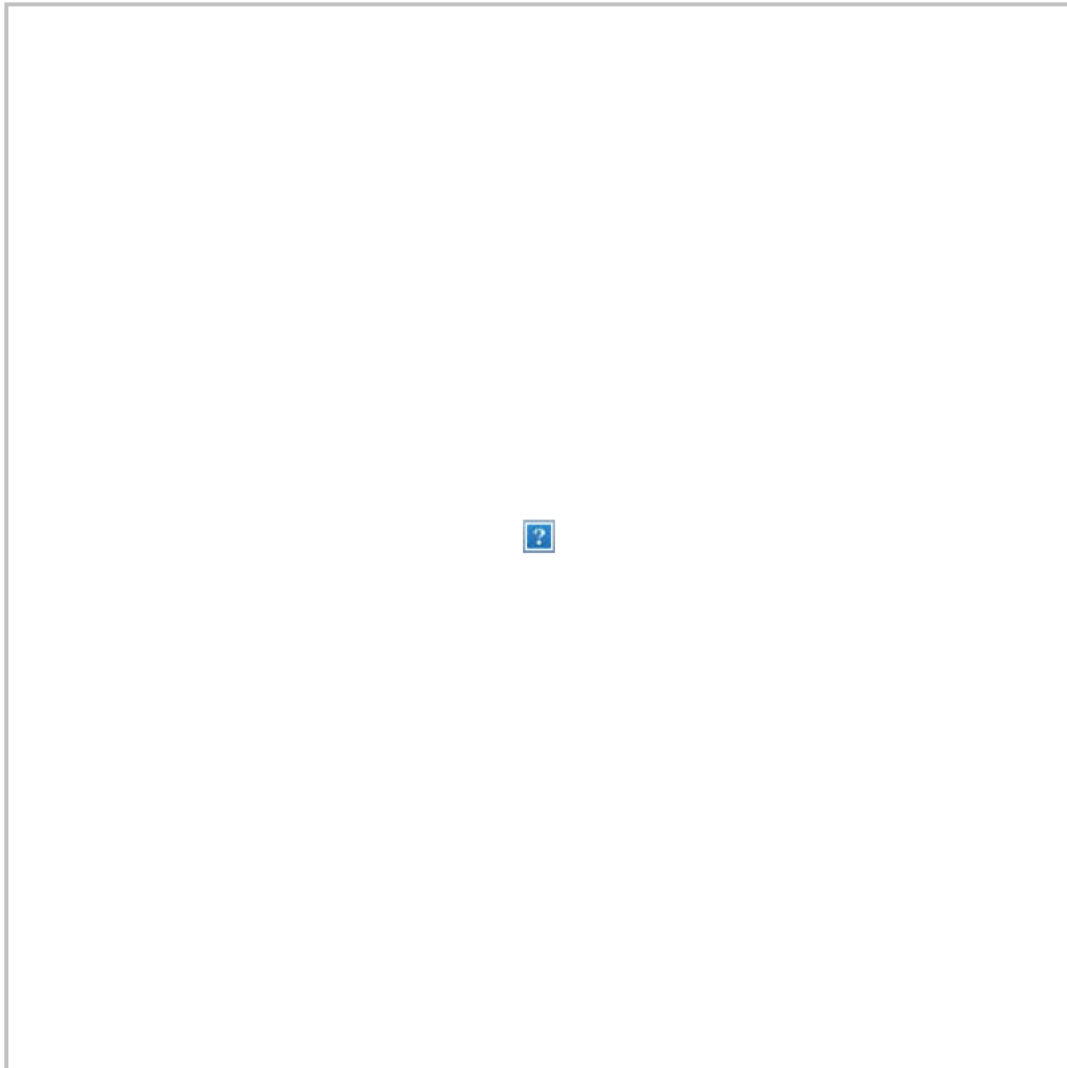
-- A Richmond federal appeals court agreed to postpone oral arguments in a case over the Washington Redskins’ trademark registration, further delaying a long-running case that pits the NFL team against the U.S. patent office and Native Americans groups find the team’s name insulting. ([Ian Shapira](#))

-- A high school senior was fatally stabbed on a D.C. Metrobus Tuesday evening, reportedly following a long-running dispute with another young woman over a cell phone. Police said the suspect has been taken into custody and charged. ([Peter Hermann](#))

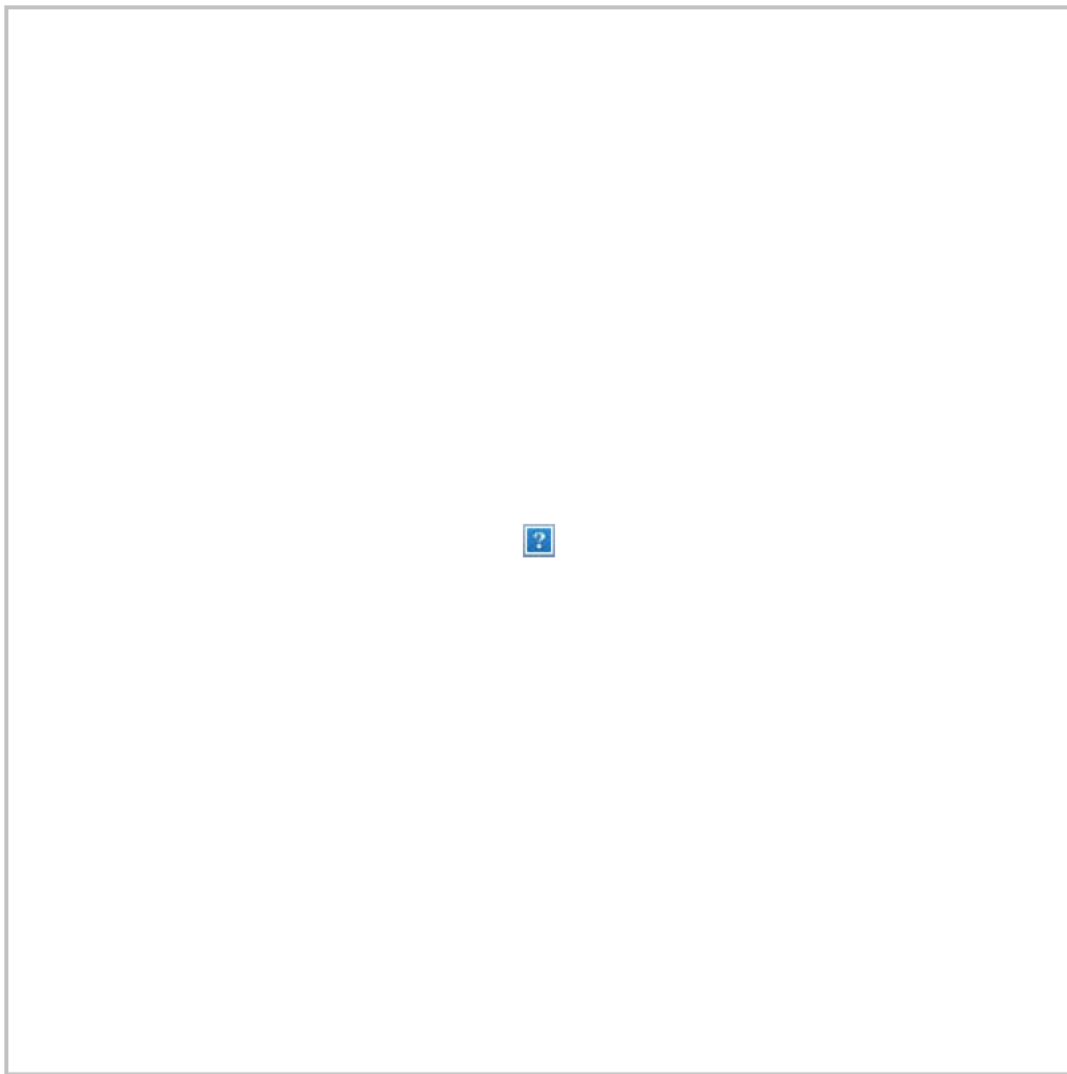
-- Marriott International announced plans to relocate its headquarters to downtown Bethesda, deciding to remain in Montgomery County after getting commitment on a \$62 million publicly funded initiative. ([Jonathan O'Connell](#))

## VIDEOS OF THE DAY:

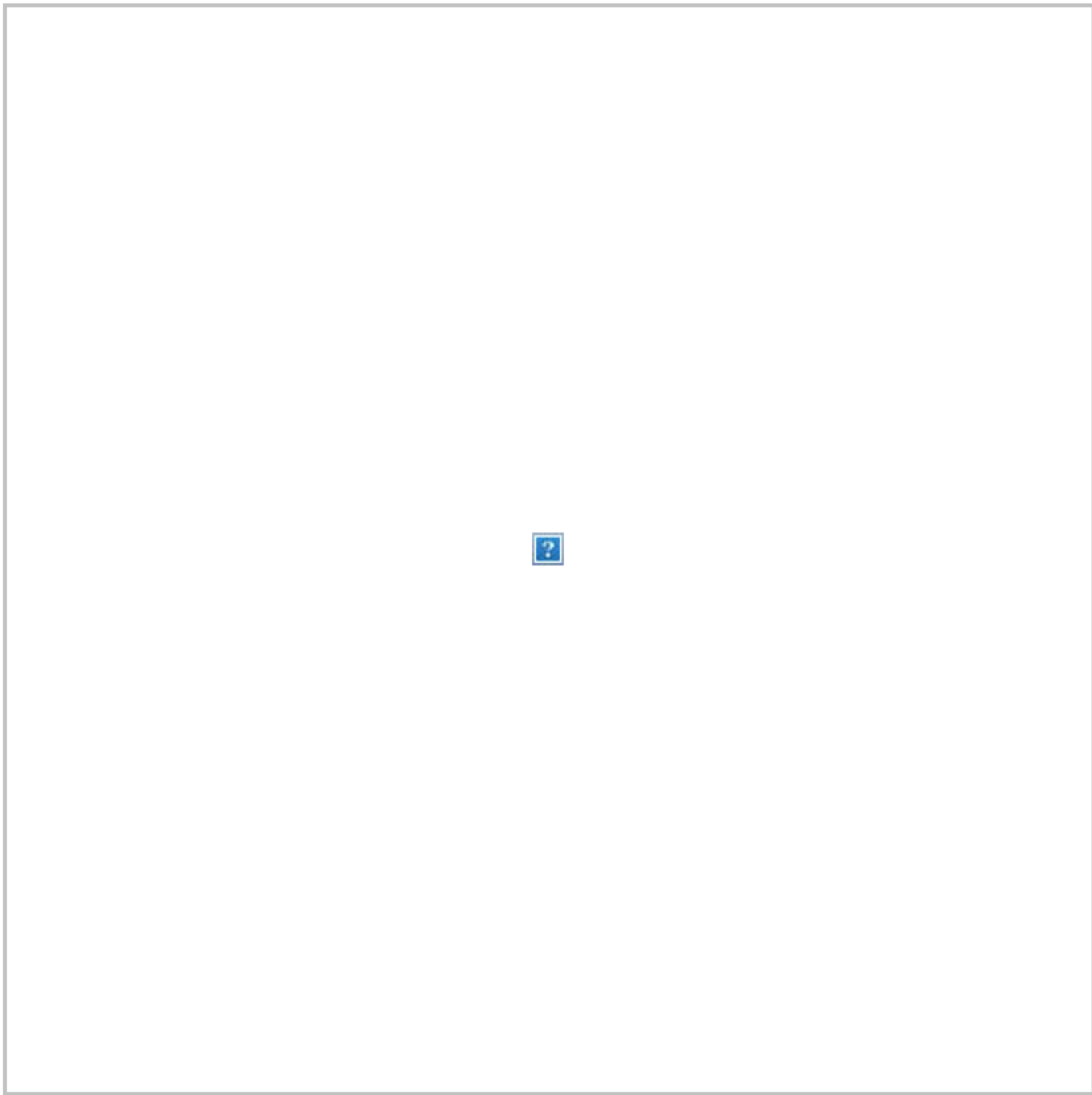
Tony Award-winning actress Laura Benanti [returned to “The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” last night](#) to reprise her [spot-on parody](#) of Melania Trump — this time with some uncomfortable Billy Bush references:





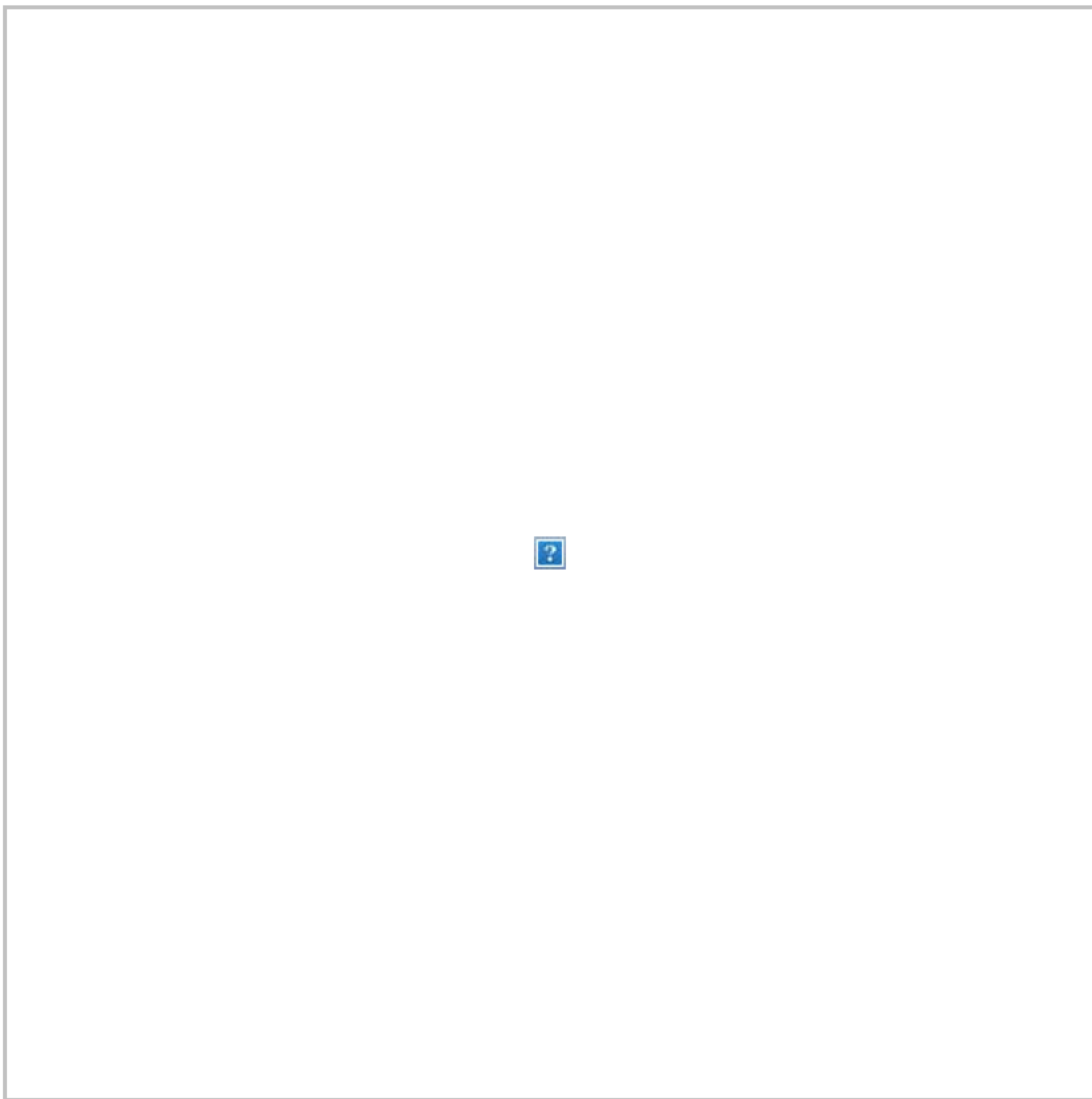


Watch as celebrities arrive at the White House for the Italian state dinner:



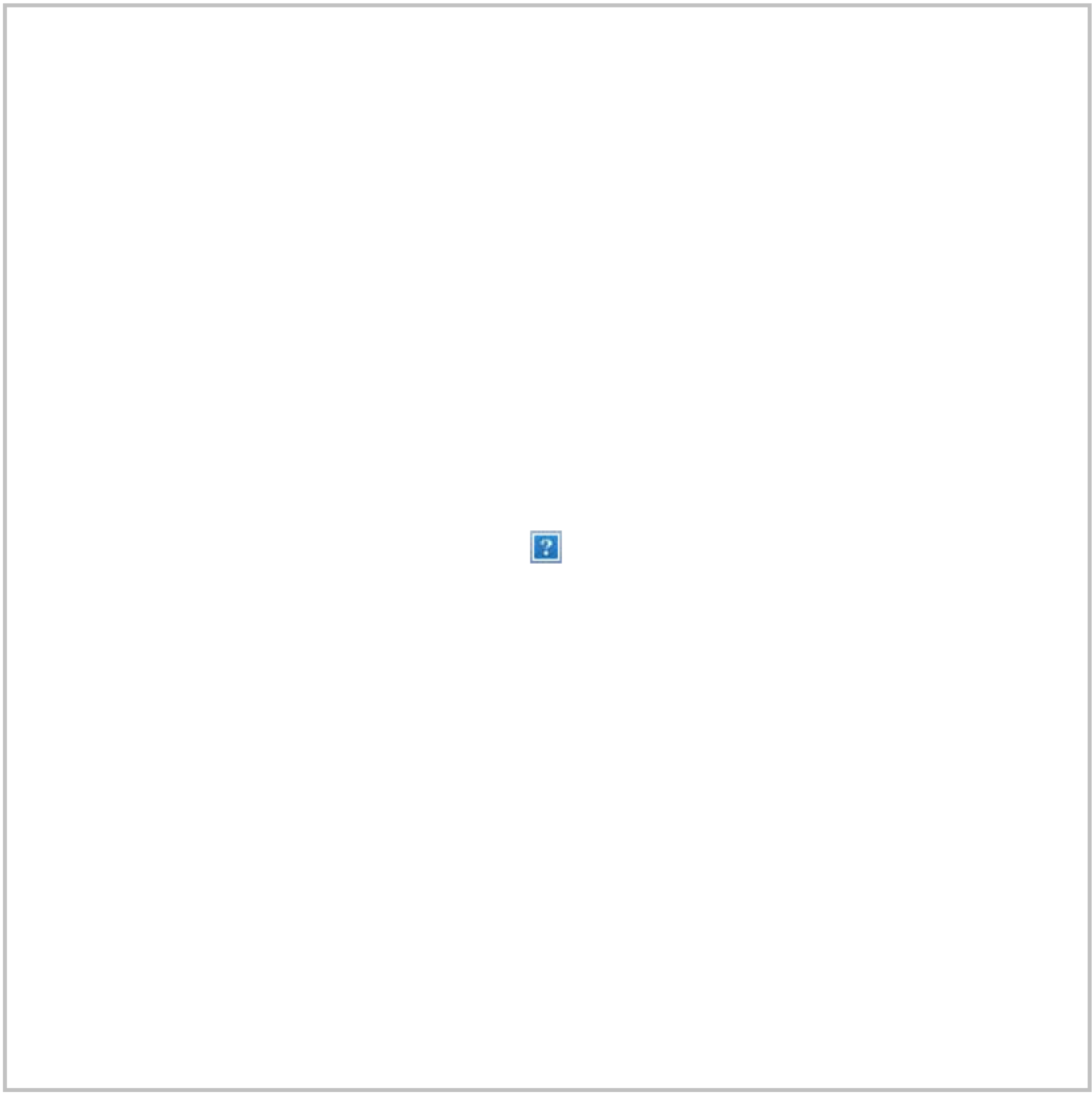
Celebrities arrive for Italian state dinner

"Dreamer" Juan Salazar, who came to the U.S. when he was seven, contemplates what's at stake in this election for him and his undocumented family members:



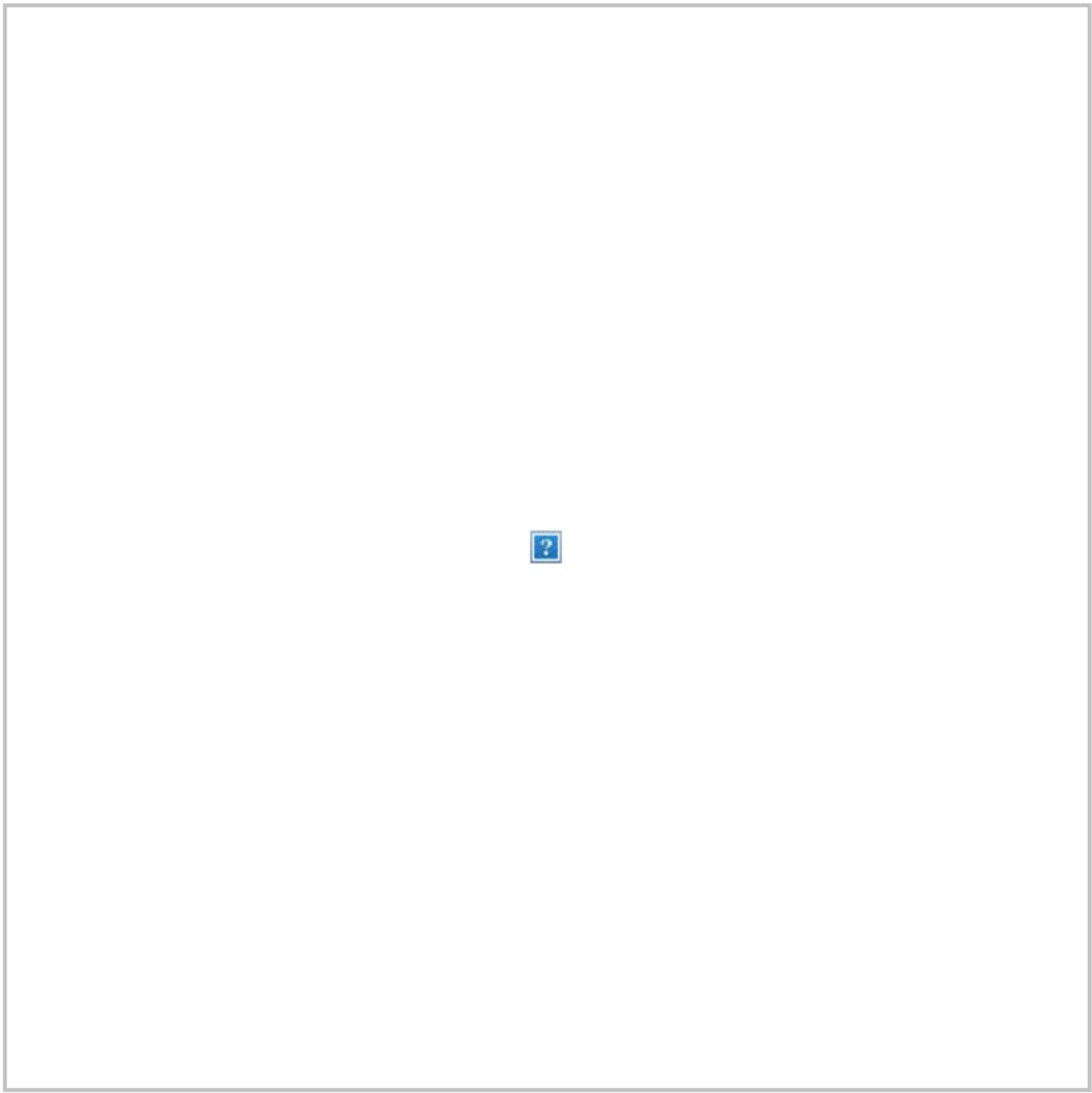
A family in fear: 'Us being separated...is just devastating'

Judy Shepard, whose son Matthew Shepard was murdered in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1998, because he was gay, cut a 1-minute spot for the Clinton Super PAC Priorities USA. "I know what can happen as the result of hate," she says to camera. "So when I see the hate that Donald Trump has brought to his campaign for president, it terrifies me. ... Words have an influence, violence causes pain, hate can rip us apart. I know what can happen as the result of hate, and Donald Trump should never be our president."



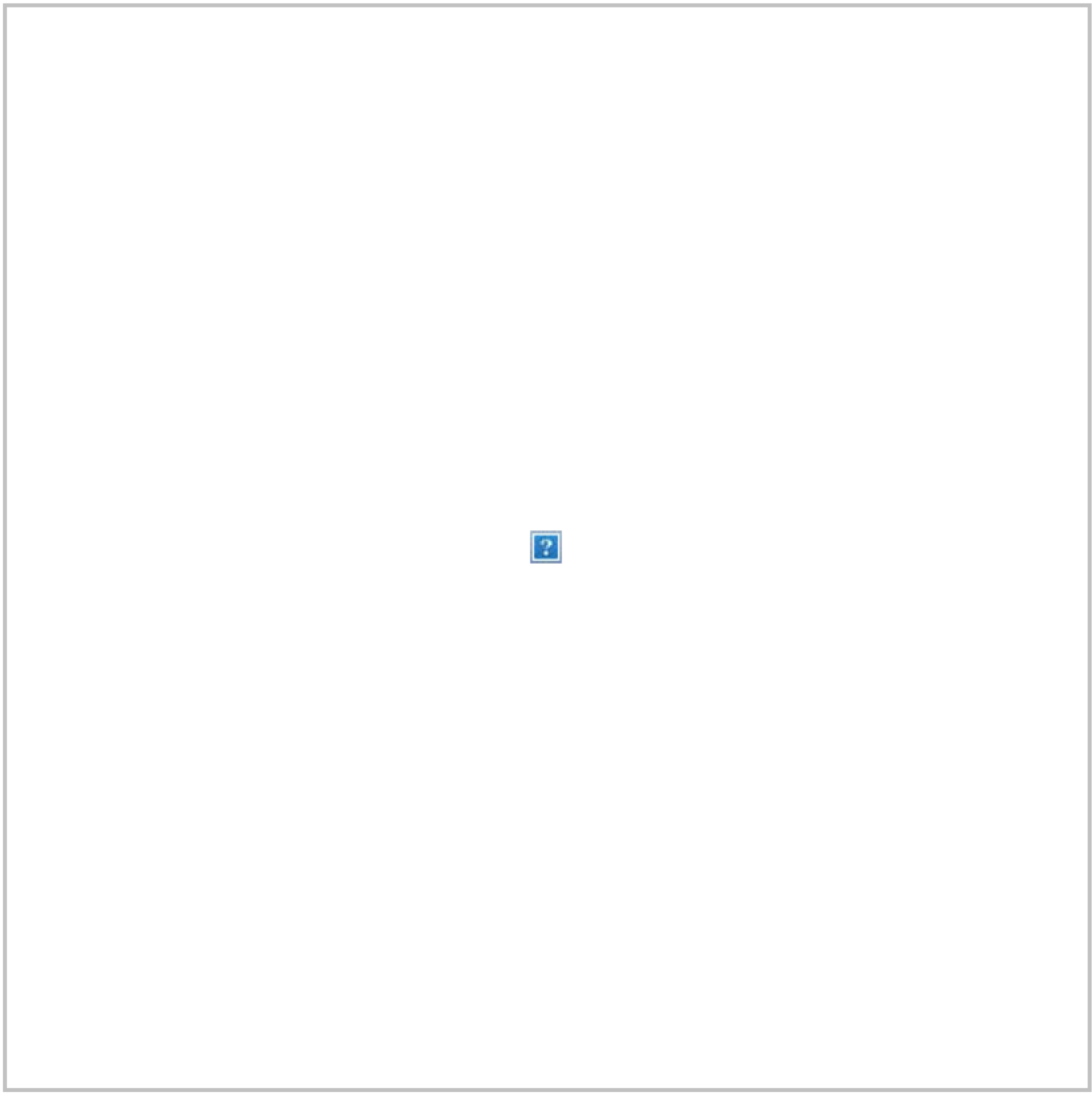
Hate

Bloomberg made an Ocean's Eleven-style explainer about whether the election is rigged:



Ocean's Election: Rigging the System, Vegas-Style

Kathy Griffin taped a video against Trump (warning: profanity):

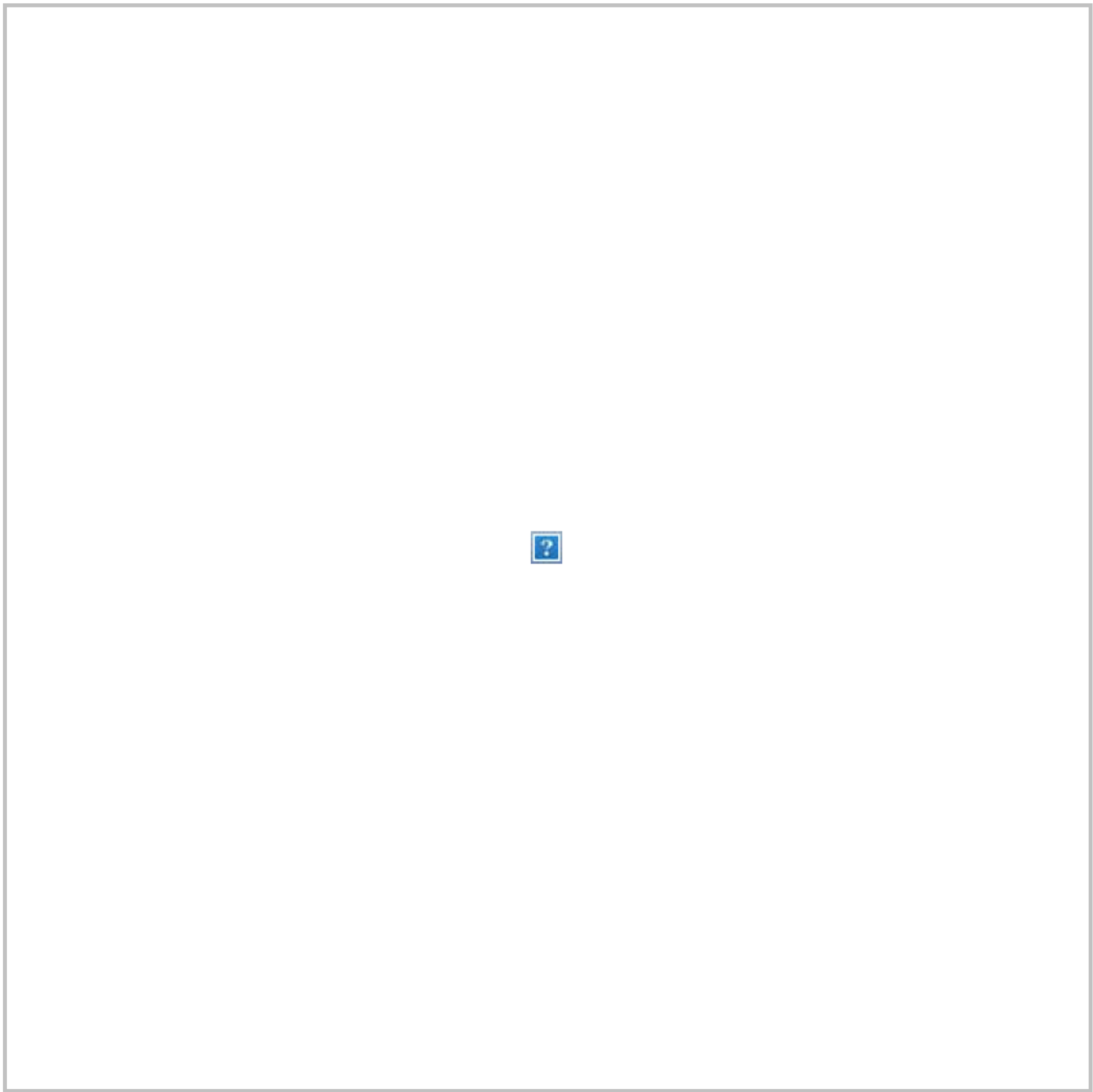


Mirrors | Kathy Griffin | Hillary Clinton

Viceland also used adult language in this Instagram video against Trump:



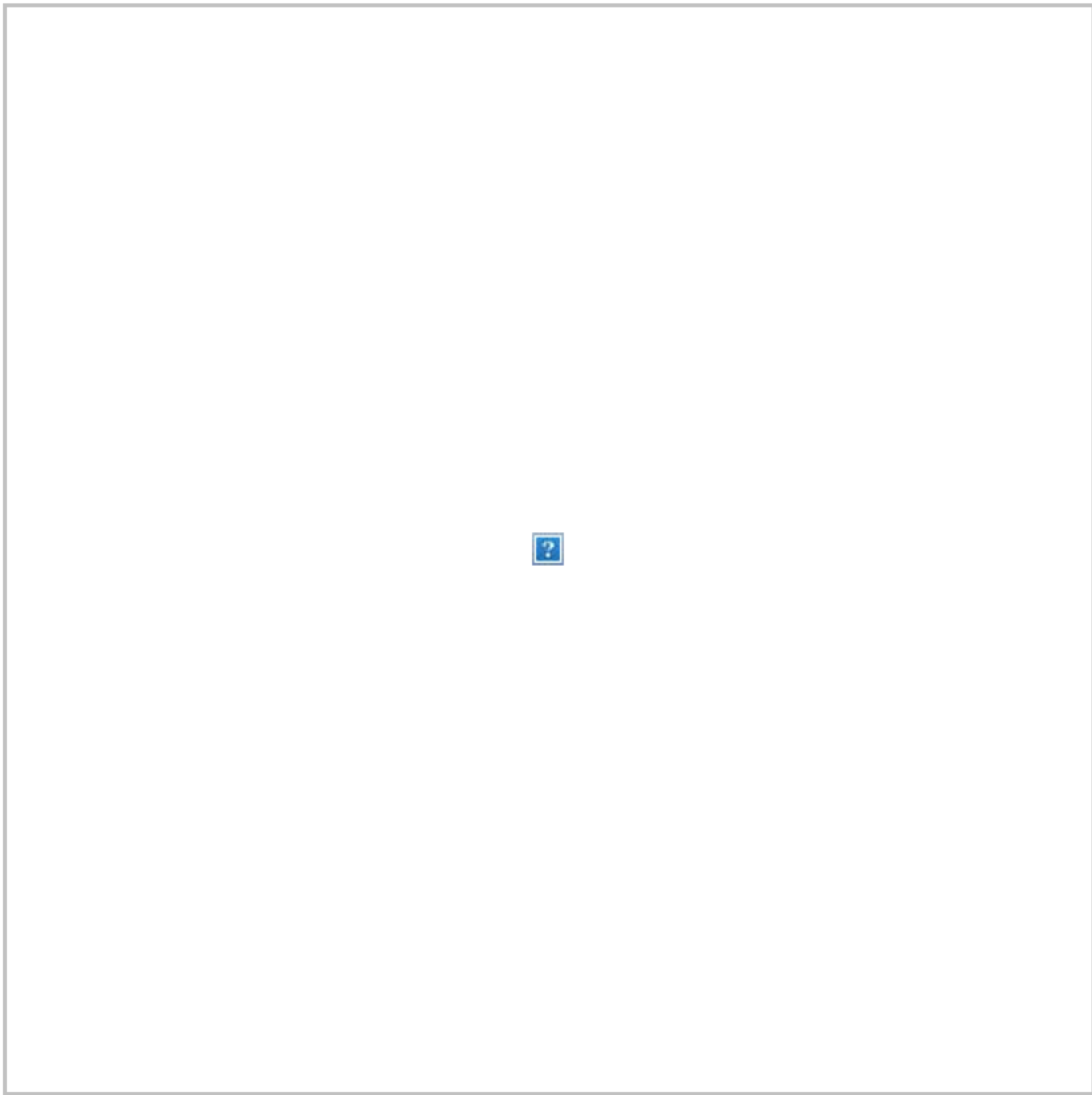
Compare some of what Clinton says in her stump speech to what she told Goldman Sachs bankers behind closed doors:



How some of Clinton's private speeches compare to her public stances

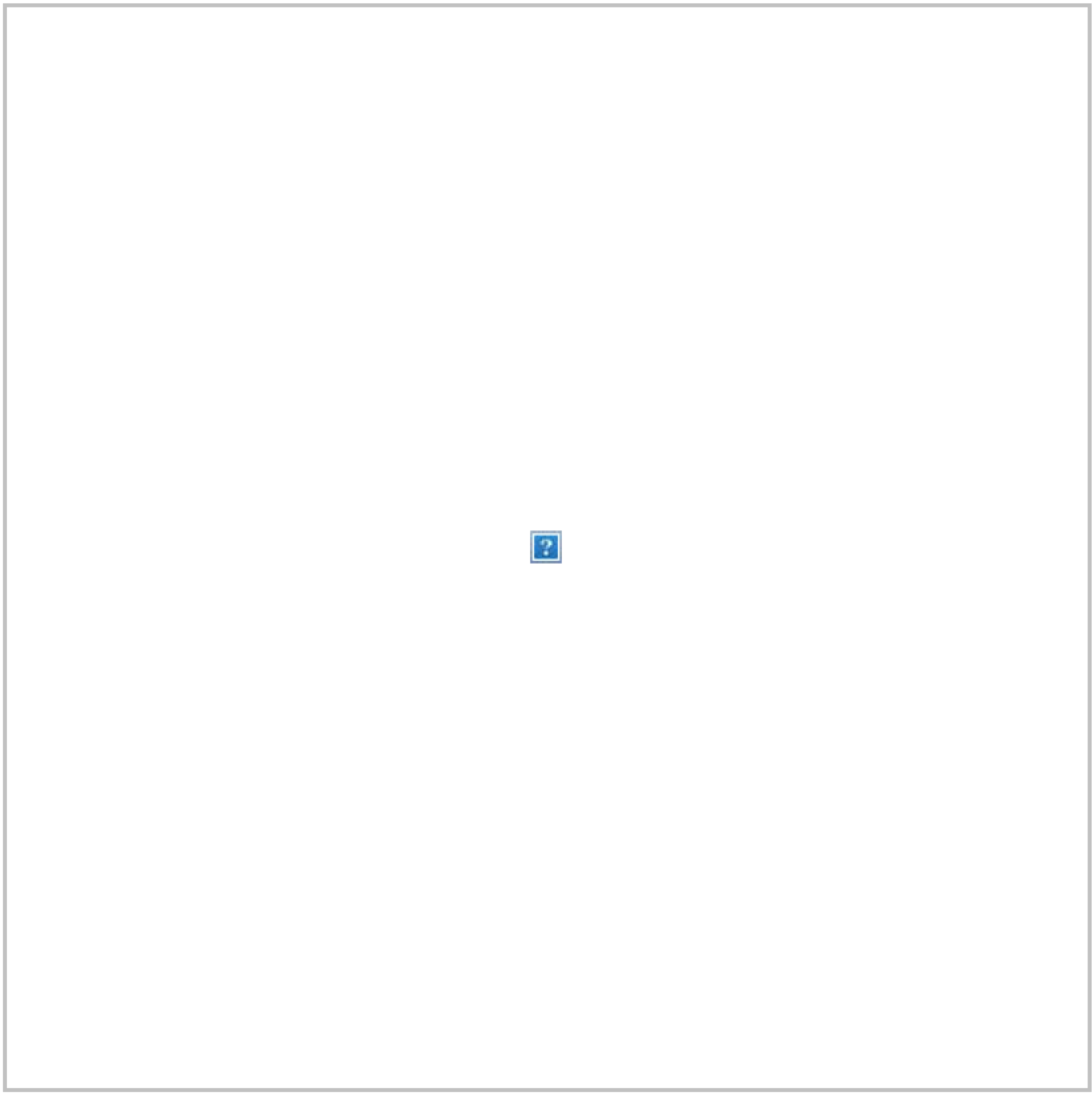
Watch Obama speak about Trump's "whining":





President Obama: "I'd invite Mr. Trump to stop whining..." (C-SPAN)

Finally, in this video, Canadians tell Americans why our country is already great:



Canadians 'tell America it's great'

You are receiving this email because you signed up for the The Daily 202 newsletter or were registered on [washingtonpost.com](http://washingtonpost.com). For additional free newsletters or to manage your newsletters, click [here](#).

We respect your **privacy**. If you believe that this email has been sent to you in error, or you no longer wish to receive email from The Washington Post, [click here](#). **Contact us** for help.



**From:** [Trump-Pence 2016](#)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Watch the Debate, Support Mr. Trump!  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 5:30:52 PM

---

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) --

The final Presidential Debate is tonight. You have a chance to join Donald J. Trump in changing history. The Drive-By Media, which is an extension of the Clinton Campaign, will try to spin the Debate as a loss for Mr. Trump no matter how decisively he wins. Log onto <https://www.facebook.com/DonaldTrump> to watch the Debate.

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at 8:30 PM Eastern there will be pre-Debate analysis and statements from the Campaign on [Mr. Trump's Facebook page](#) that directly leads into the Debate. Be sure to watch these events live tonight starting at 8:30 PM Eastern.

After the Debate, members of the Trump Family will join the Campaign for an hour or so of post-Debate coverage. All residents of New York are invited to learn the truth on how the Debate went, with countless fellow Supporters, by [going to Mr. Trump's page](#) on Facebook.

Make America Great Again,

Trump-Pence 2016

PS: Click "Like" on [Mr. Trump's Facebook page](#) and Share his Posts if you have not already done so, and watch the Debate with commentary before and after, starting today at 8:30 PM Eastern.

To donate directly to Donald J. Trump for President, Inc. Click here: <https://secure.donaldjtrump.com>

Download the app, America First here: <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/app>

|   |
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|---|

This email was sent to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) . To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).

From:  
To:

(b) (6)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject:  
Date:

Fw: Did you see any of this in your newspaper???  
Sunday, October 30, 2016 7:50:39 PM

---

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: (b) (6) >  
To:  
Sent: Sunday, October 30, 2016 11:07 AM  
Subject: Did you see any of this in your newspaper???

**Subject: : Did you see any of this in your newspaper???**

**Subject: Did you see any of this in your newspaper???**

Anybody seen this?

Trump laid out his plans in total in his Gettysburg address of 10/22/2016. It is difficult to find a web site revealing the contents of this address, so the important details that affect our USA are summarized below. Please help inform the undecided and low information voters by forwarding this email to as many as possible.

Gettysburg text: <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/press-releases/donald-j.-trump-delivers-groundbreaking-contract-for-the-american-vote1>.

Gettysburg video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OJniAA4m7Bo>.

Gettysburg address of 10/22/2016

[DONALD J. TRUMP CONTRACT WITH THE AMERICAN VOTER](#)

### **Day one priorities**

1. Propose a Constitutional Amendment to impose term limits on all members of Congress.
2. Hiring freeze on all federal employees to reduce federal workforce through attrition.
3. Require two existing federal regulations be eliminated for every new regulation established.
4. Place a 5 year-ban on White House and Congressional officials becoming lobbyists after they leave government service;
5. Set a lifetime ban on White House officials lobbying on behalf of a foreign government;
6. Mandate, a complete ban on foreign lobbyists raising money for American elections.

### **Day one actions to protect American workers**

1. Renegotiate NAFTA or withdraw from the deal under Article 2205
2. Withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership
3. Direct the Secretary of the Treasury to label China a currency manipulator
4. Identify and eliminate all foreign trading abuses that unfairly impact American workers
5. Lift production restrictions on \$50 trillion dollars worth of job-producing American energy reserves, including shale, oil, natural gas and clean coal.
6. Lift current roadblocks on vital energy infrastructure projects, like the Keystone Pipeline.
7. Cancel payments to U.N. climate change programs and use the money to fix America's water and environmental infrastructure.

### **Day one actions to restore security and the constitutional rule of law**

1. Cancel every unconstitutional executive action, memorandum and order issued by President Obama
2. Begin the process of selecting a replacement for Justice Scalia
3. Cancel all federal funding to Sanctuary Cities
4. Begin removing the more than 2 million criminal illegal immigrants from the country and cancel visas to foreign countries that won't take them back.
5. Implement extreme vetting, and suspend immigration from terror-prone regions where vetting cannot safely occur.

### **Actions for the first 100 days in office**

1. **Middle Class Tax Relief And Simplification Act.** Implement plans that grow the economy 4% per year and create at least 25 million new jobs through massive tax reduction and simplification, in combination with trade reform, regulatory relief, and lifting the restrictions on American energy. The largest tax

reductions are for the middle class. A middle-class family with 2 children will get a 35% tax cut. The current number of brackets will be reduced from 7 to 3, and tax forms will likewise be greatly simplified. The business rate will be lowered from 35 to 15 percent, and the trillions of dollars of American corporate money overseas can now be brought back at a 10 percent rate.

**2. End The Offshoring Act** Establishes tariffs to discourage companies from laying off their workers in order to relocate in other countries and ship their products back to the U.S. tax-free.

**3. American Energy & Infrastructure Act**, Leverages public-private partnerships, and private investments through tax incentives, to spur \$1 trillion in infrastructure investment over 10 years. It is revenue neutral.

**4. School Choice And Education Opportunity Act.** Redirects education dollars to gives parents the right to send their kid to the public, private, charter, magnet, religious or home school of their choice. Ends common core, brings education supervision to local communities. It expands vocational and technical education, and make 2 and 4-year college more affordable.

**5. Repeal and Replace Obamacare Act.** Fully repeals Obamacare and replaces it with Health Savings Accounts, the ability to purchase health insurance across state lines, and lets states manage Medicaid funds. Reforms will also include cutting the red tape at the FDA: there are over 4,000 drugs awaiting approval, and we especially want to speed the approval of life-saving medications.

**6. Affordable Childcare and Eldercare Act.** Allows Americans to deduct childcare and elder care from their taxes, incentivizes employers to provide on-site childcare services, and creates tax-free Dependent Care Savings Accounts for both young and elderly dependents, with matching contributions for low-income families.

**7. End Illegal Immigration Act**, Fully-funds the construction of a wall on our southern border with the full understanding that the country Mexico will be reimbursing the United States for the full cost of such wall; establishes a 2-year mandatory minimum federal prison sentence for illegally re-entering the U.S. after a previous deportation, and a 5-year mandatory minimum for illegally re-entering for those with felony convictions, multiple misdemeanor convictions or two or more prior deportations; also reforms visa rules to enhance penalties for overstaying and to ensure open jobs are offered to American workers first.

**8. Restoring Community Safety Act.** Reduces surging crime, drugs and violence by creating a Task Force On Violent Crime

and increasing funding for programs that train and assist local police; increases resources for federal law enforcement agencies and federal prosecutors to dismantle criminal gangs and put violent offenders behind bars.

**9. Restoring National Security Act.** Rebuilds our military by eliminating the defense sequester and expanding military investment; provides Veterans with the ability to receive public VA treatment or attend the private doctor of their choice; protects our vital infrastructure from cyber-attack; establishes new screening procedures for immigration to ensure those who are admitted to our country support our people and our values

**10. Clean up Corruption in Washington Act.** Enacts new ethics reforms to Drain the Swamp and reduce the corrupting influence of special interests on our politics.

**From:** [info=donaldtrump.com@email.donaldtrump.com](mailto:info=donaldtrump.com@email.donaldtrump.com) on behalf of [Donald J. Trump](#)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Event Registration  
**Date:** Monday, October 31, 2016 10:36:41 AM

---

[Donald J Trump](#)



**CONTRIBUTE NOW**



[www.DonaldJTrump.com](http://www.DonaldJTrump.com)

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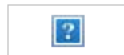


**From:** [Donald J. Trump for President, Inc.](#)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Time Change for Rally  
**Date:** Monday, October 31, 2016 10:59:21 PM

---



## TIME CHANGE IN EAU CLAIRE, WI TOMORROW!



Dear (b) (6), (b) (7)(C),

The start time to join Donald Trump and team in Eau Claire, WI tomorrow, Nov. 1st has been moved up to 6:00 PM (CST). Your tickets are still valid for this event. Details about the event are below:

**Tuesday, November 1st: Eau Claire, WI**

W.L. Zorn Arena

121 Garfield Ave.

Eau Claire, WI 54701

Doors Open: 4:00 PM

Event Begins: 6:00 PM

Thank you for your understanding.

Sincerely,

Team Trump–Pence

---

TEXT **TRUMP** TO **88022** TO GET EXCLUSIVE UPDATES

\*\*\*By participating, you consent to receiving automated text messages  
from the campaign. Standard messaging rates apply.\*\*\*

To donate, go here: <https://secure.donaldjtrump.com/donate/>

*Contributions are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes.*

P.S. If you would like to purchase official campaign gear, [click here](#).



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[info@donaldtrump.com](mailto:info@donaldtrump.com)

From: [Trump Pence Faith](#)  
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: Call to Action for Catholic Voters!  
Date: Wednesday, November 2, 2016 7:30:52 PM

---

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) --

We are 6 days out from Election Day on November 8 and the campaign is in overdrive!

The opponent has 5 events between now and November 8. Mr. Trump has 5 events in the next 2 days and 9 in the next 3, and I can tell you, he will be moving at an even more blistering pace thereafter. Please spread the word of the vast intensity gap between the schedules in your conversations, e-mails and on social media.

To give you a further sense of things, we have pulled ahead of the opponent in national polls after being down as many as 12 points two weeks ago, and this was prior to the news of the FBI opening their new investigation. We cannot take anything for granted, and now we must forge on with our prayers and work.

Just looking at the latest brewing scandal is yet another reminder where the corrupt opponent and her cronies would take our country. From ethics and on issues of importance to Catholics, the opponent would be a disaster for us. Please continue to show your support for Donald Trump by tweeting at **#TrumpForCatholics**.

Today, I wanted to reach out on some final action items that Mr. Trump's campaign needs your help with immediately.

**First**, pray. Please continue on our [Novena to Saint Jude](#), and in praying the [Knights of Columbus Novena](#) to [Mary](#). Lastly, say one [Rosary](#) for the final nine days of the campaign.

**Second**, [here](#) is a link to our Catholic Voter Alert. You can print, divide in two, and distribute to friends, families and colleagues. [Here](#) is a link to a version you can post on Facebook or Twitter. This highlights the stark differences between Mr. Trump and Gov. Pence with Hillary Clinton on issues of greatest importance to Catholics.

**Third**, if you are in any of [these](#) states, click on your state and then click on "Headquarters" near the bottom of the page and ask how you can best help in the final days of the campaign.

**Fourth**, to make GOTV (get out the vote) calls from the comfort of your home, click [here](#) and sign up in the upper right corner.

**Fifth**, to volunteer to be a Trump election observer, click [here](#).

Remember that Mr. Trump and Gov. Pence will defend the Catholic Church and the issues of greatest importance to Catholics. And a vote for Hillary Clinton will **continue her campaign against life**, the **erosion of Religious Liberty** and ensure a Supreme Court hostile to the Catholic Church and us as Catholics.

Please use social media and show your support by using the hashtag **#TrumpForCatholics**. And please check out, share and like our page on Facebook: [Trump for Catholics](#). Check us out on [Twitter](#) too!

Onward!

MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!

God Bless.

Sincerely Yours,

Joseph Cella  
Catholic Liaison  
Donald J. Trump for President, Inc.

Log in again, or sign up for the first time to dial for Mr. Trump: <https://talk.donaldjtrump.com/>

To donate directly to Donald J. Trump for President, Inc. Click  
here: [https://secure.donaldjtrump.com/nb\\_campaign](https://secure.donaldjtrump.com/nb_campaign)

Download the app, America First here: <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/app>

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**From:** [Trump Team Wisconsin](#)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Tomorrow - Join Eric Trump and Senator Johnson for Victory!  
**Date:** Thursday, November 3, 2016 12:12:45 AM

---

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) --

Join Eric Trump and Senator Ron Johnson tomorrow! We will be making stops in Hudson, Eau Claire, Chippewa Falls, and Medford.

Victory Tour: Manufacturing in Hudson  
Date: Thursday, November 3, 2016  
Time: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM  
Location: Empire Bucket Inc  
1360 Livingstone Road  
Hudson, WI 54016

Victory Tour: Eau Claire  
Date: Thursday, November 3, 2016  
Time: 2:15 PM – 3:10 PM CDT  
Location: Eau Claire Field Office  
3192 London Road  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Victory Tour: Chippewa Falls  
Date: Thursday, November 3, 2016  
Time: 3:30 PM – 4:45 PM CDT  
Location: Chippewa County GOP HQ  
475 Chippewa Mall Dr  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Victory Tour: Medford  
Date: Thursday, November 3, 2016  
Time: 5:45 PM – 7:00 PM CDT  
Location: Happy Joe's Pizza & Ice Cream Parlor  
909 Casement Court  
Medford, WI 54451

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow on our way to Victory!

Log in again, or sign up for the first time to dial for Mr. Trump: <https://talk.donaldjtrump.com/>

To donate directly to Donald J. Trump for President, Inc. Click here: [https://secure.donaldjtrump.com/nb\\_campaign](https://secure.donaldjtrump.com/nb_campaign)

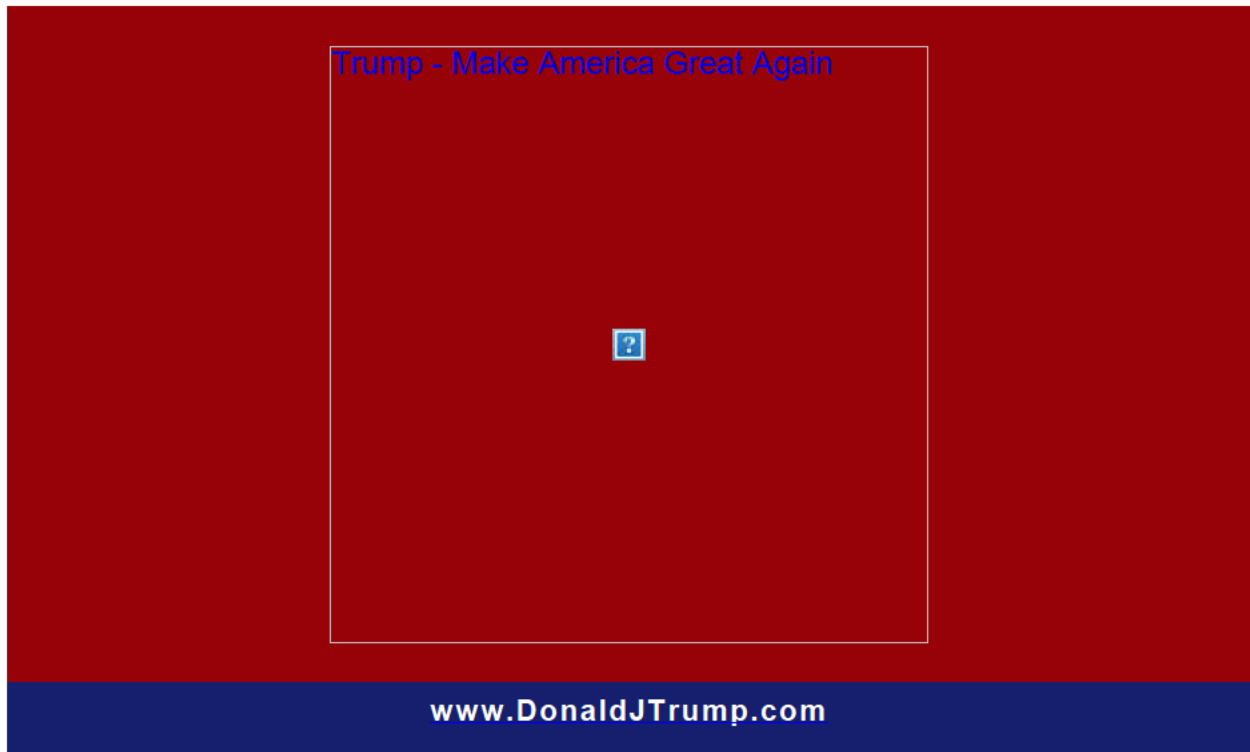
Download the app, America First here: <https://www.donaldjtrump.com/app>

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This email was sent to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). To stop receiving emails, [click here](#).

**From:** [Brandon Phillips](#)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Trump-Pence GA HQ Grand Opening  
**Date:** Friday, September 16, 2016 9:35:31 AM

---



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) --

Please join Team Trump supporters from all across the state for the official grand opening of our new Georgia Republican Victory HQ for Trump-Pence and the Republican team THIS SATURDAY.

It's going to be a YUGE event so be sure to bring the whole family. There will be t-shirts, signs, bumper stickers and other items available (while supplies last).

We're also anticipating a surprise guest speaker that you won't want to miss!

**What: GA HQ Office Grand Opening**

**When: Saturday, Sept. 17th, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**Where: 8607 Roberts Drive, Atlanta, GA 30350 (Sandy Springs)**

For questions, you may call our office at 678-888-4872.

See you Saturday!

Brandon Phillips

Georgia State Director



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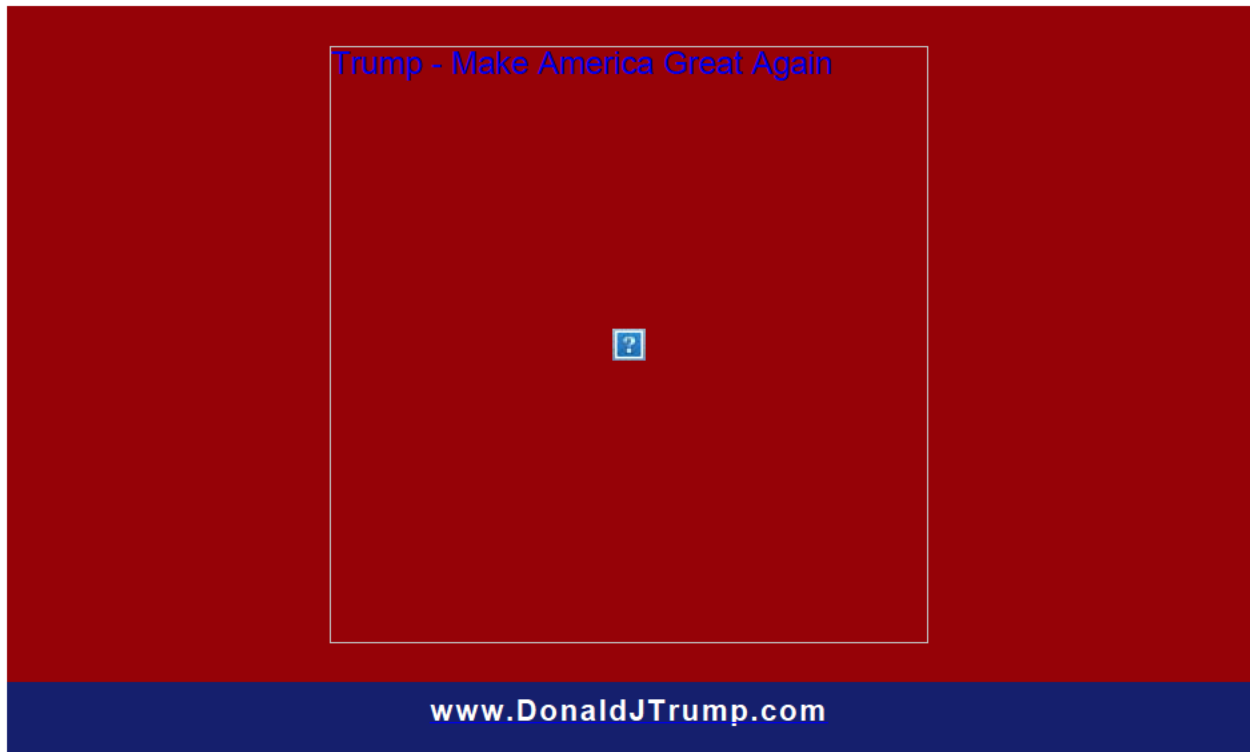
725 5th Avenue · New York, NY · 10022

[info@donaldtrump.com](mailto:info@donaldtrump.com)



**From:** [Brandon Phillips](#)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Trump Talk is Live!  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 21, 2016 11:08:14 AM

---



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) --

The Trump Campaign is excited to announce Trump Talk, an interactive phone banking system developed for supporters to spread Mr. Trump's message to Make America Great Again.

Trump Talk allows users to remotely call Trump supporters from a computer or phone. The program engages users to level up through the number of calls made with the ability to win prizes for high-volume callers for when a certain number of calls is reached. Trump Talk is personalized to each individual's lifestyle and availability by asking user's daily goal every time they log on.

Many of you helped us secure victory here in Georgia during the primary by making these important phone calls. Absentee ballots are already being mailed

out. Please join our efforts again to make sure we turn out the vote for Mr.  
Trump one more time and secure victory this November.

Login or Join Trump Talk here: <https://talk.donaldjtrump.com/>

Brandon Phillips

Georgia State Director



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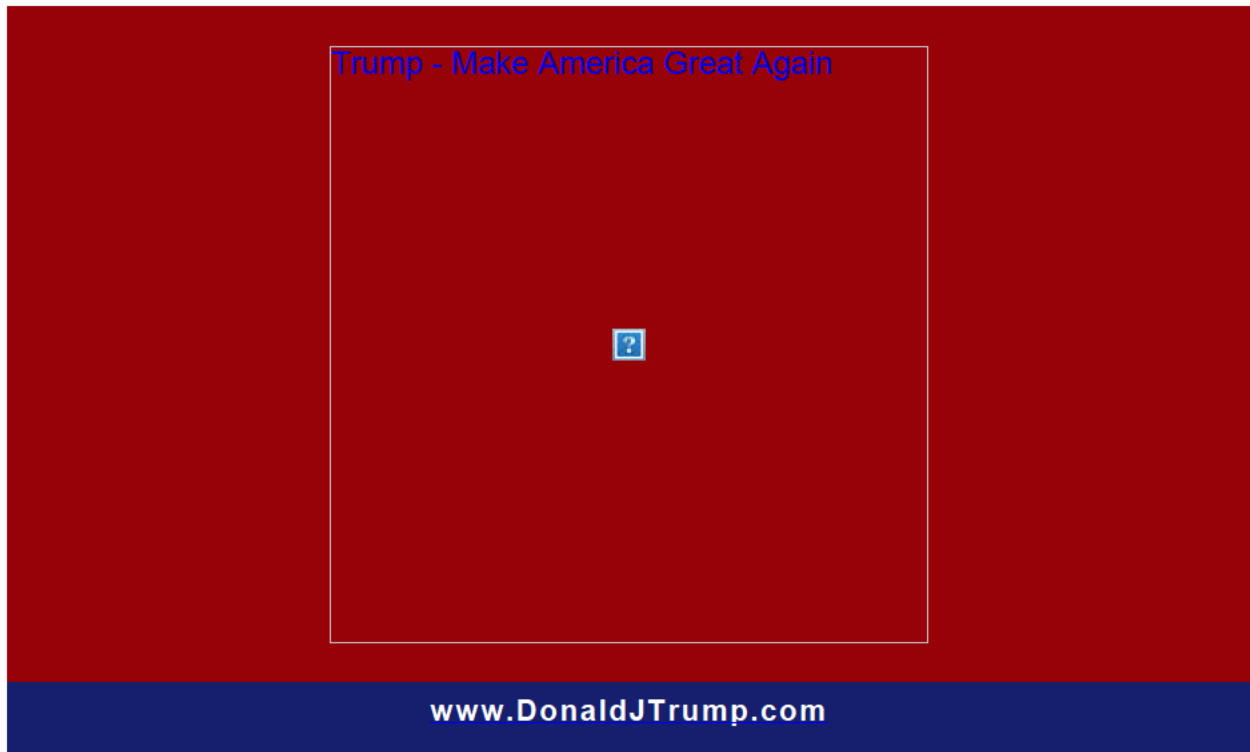
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[info@donaldtrump.com](mailto:info@donaldtrump.com)

**From:** Brandon Phillips  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** National Day of Action  
**Date:** Friday, September 23, 2016 7:55:01 PM

---



(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) --

This Saturday, September 24th is a National Day of Action, in which nearly 1,100 Trump/Pence and RNC staff will coordinate thousands of volunteers in states across the country to knock on doors, register voters, and ramp up early vote efforts. This is especially important in Georgia as absentee voting has begun and in person early voting will start soon.

If you are willing to volunteer a small amount of your time to help us make America great again in YOUR area then please join us this Saturday. To get involved, email us at [info.ga@donaldtrump.com](mailto:info.ga@donaldtrump.com), give us a call at 678-888-4872 or stop by the Victory office at 8607 Roberts Drive, Atlanta, GA 30350.

Or [complete this quick, secure form](#) on-line and someone will get back to you!

Thanks,

Brandon Phillips

Georgia State Director



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[info@donaldtrump.com](mailto:info@donaldtrump.com)

From: [Donald J. Trump](#)  
To: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
Subject: FW: Tomorrow's debate  
Date: Sunday, October 9, 2016 2:28:57 PM

---



Please find a special message from one of our advertisers, Trump Make America Great Again Committee.

---

Friend,

**Eric gave me the first set of names of supporters, but your name wasn't on the list.**

I hope you'll make a contribution before I take the stage tonight.

I promise to fight for you. And I promise to make you proud.

You can use this link to make a contribution before the debate:  
<https://donate.donaldjtrump.com/second-debate-good-luck-list/>

Thank you,

Donald J. Trump

**GET ON THE LIST**

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Eric Trump  
**Subject:** Tomorrow's debate  
**To:** georgene.small@dhs.gov



Friend,

Tomorrow night's debate is the biggest of our entire election.

My father has been preparing for this night as if the entire election depends upon it.

And before he takes the stage to face Hillary Clinton, I'll be giving him a list of supporters who made a contribution just before the big debate.

It will boost his morale and strengthen his resolve as he takes the stage to fight for you -- and the American people.

**[Please contribute \\$100, \\$65, \\$50, \\$35, \\$20, \\$15, or \\$10 to get your name on the list I give my father right before the debate.](#)**

Last time, he even posted the first 150 names of supporters who made a contribution in honor of our great movement.

Take my word for it, he is truly humbled by the contributions so many men and women have sacrificed in order to Make America Great Again!

Patriots have stepped up to give \$5, \$10, \$35, sometimes even \$100, and it's added up to tens of millions of dollars.

Now I hope to humble him again tomorrow night by showing him another list of supporters who made a contribution in honor of our movement before the debate.

**[Please contribute \\$100, \\$65, \\$50, \\$35, \\$20, \\$15, or \\$10 to get your name on the list I give my father right before the debate.](#)**

Thanks,

Eric Trump

**GET ON THE LIST**

Contributions to the Trump Make America Great Again Committee are not deductible for federal income tax purposes

Paid for by Trump Make America Great Again Committee, a joint fundraising committee authorized by and composed of Donald J. Trump for President, Inc. and the Republican National Committee

This message was intended for: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
You were added to the system August 26, 2016.

[Unsubscribe](#)

To Unsubscribe by email, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" as the Subject Line.

**From:** [Donald J. Trump for President, Inc.](#)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Gov. Pence in Fletcher, NC Tomorrow!  
**Date:** Sunday, October 9, 2016 8:22:18 PM

---



  
**JOIN US IN FLETCHER, NC TOMORROW!**  


Dear (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Remember to get your tickets to join Gov. Mike Pence and team in  
Fletcher, NC, tomorrow, Monday Oct. 10th @ 6:00 PM for a rally! [Get  
your tickets here.](#) Details about the event are below:

**Tomorrow, Monday, October 10th: Fletcher, NC**

WNC Agricultural Center  
1301 Fanning Bridge Rd.



Fletcher, NC 28732

Doors Open: 4:00 PM

Event Begins: 6:00 PM

[Get your tickets here.](#)

Please limit personal items and arrive early to expedite entrance into the venue - please note, **NO homemade signs, banners, professional cameras with a detachable lens, tripods, monopods, selfie sticks, back packs or large bags will be permitted into the venue.**

We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Team Trump–Pence

---

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[info@donaldtrump.com](mailto:info@donaldtrump.com)

**From:** [Donald J. Trump for President, Inc.](#)  
**To:** (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)  
**Subject:** Gov. Pence in Fletcher, NC Today!  
**Date:** Monday, October 10, 2016 2:41:24 PM

---



**JOIN US IN FLETCHER, NC TODAY!**



Dear (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Remember to get your tickets to join Gov. Mike Pence and team in  
Fletcher, NC, today, Monday Oct. 10th @ 6:00 PM for a rally! [Get your  
tickets here.](#) Details about the event are below:

**Today, Monday, October 10th: Fletcher, NC**

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1301 Fanning Bridge Rd.

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Sincerely,

Team Trump–Pence

---

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[info@donaldtrump.com](mailto:info@donaldtrump.com)

**From:** [The Washington Post](#)  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** The Daily 202: The Supreme Court will be a focus of tonight's presidential debate  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 9:40:31 AM

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If you're having trouble reading this, [click here](#).

---

# The Daily 202



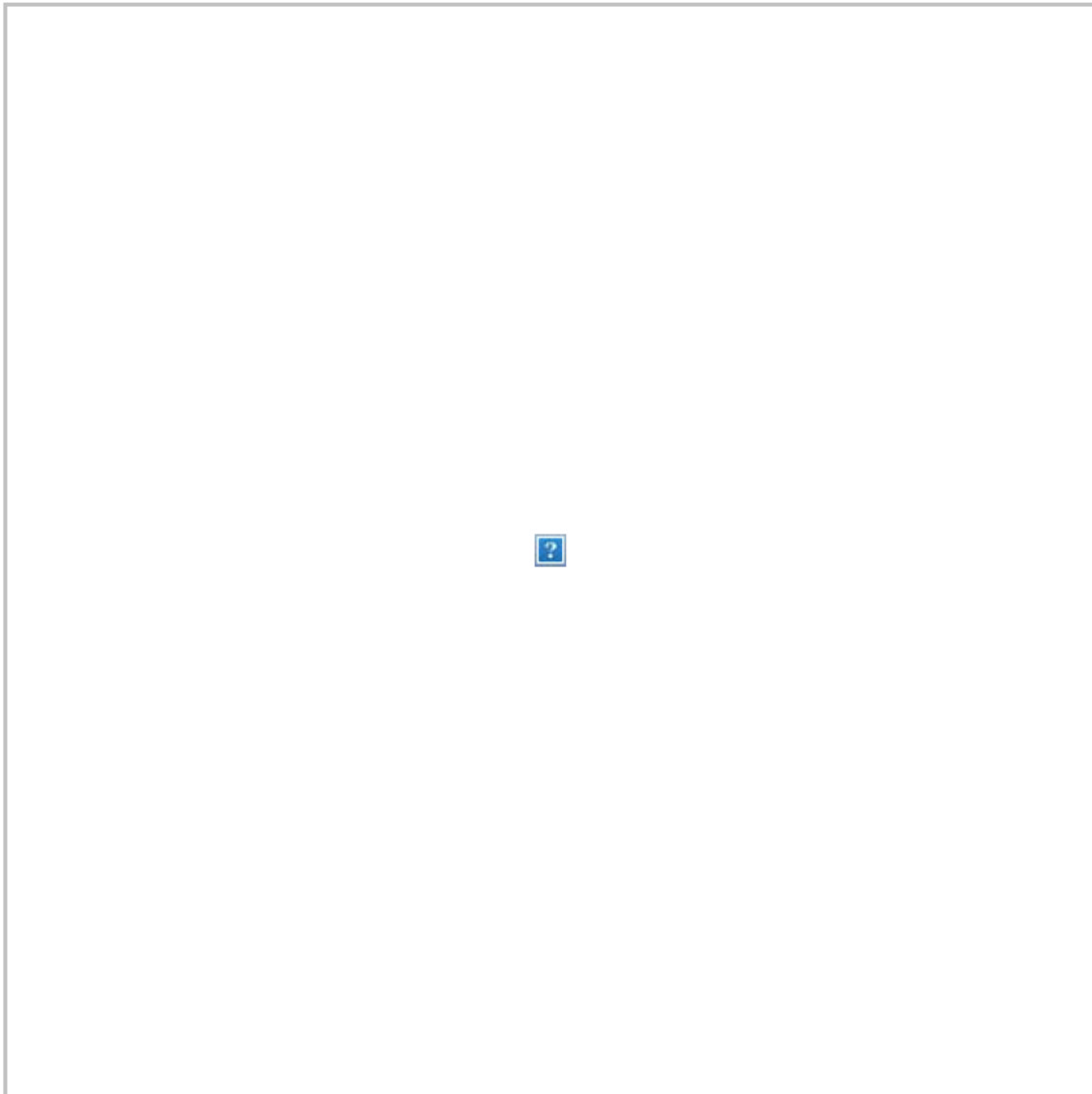
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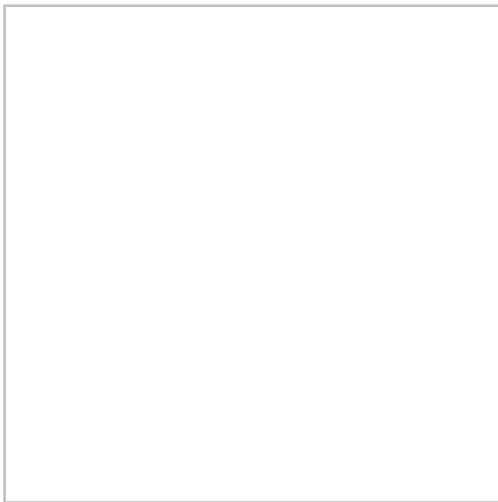


**The Supreme Court will be a focus of tonight's**

## presidential debate



Donald Trump's plane passes Hillary Clinton's plane at McCarran International Airport yesterday. The candidates have come to Las Vegas for their third and final debate. (Brendan Smialowski/AFP/Getty Images)



*With Breanne Deppisch*

**THE BIG IDEA: The Supreme Court is one of six main topics that will be covered during tonight's final debate at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.** The late Antonin Scalia's seat continues to sit empty. An evenly-divided court has begun its new term under a cloud of uncertainty. Assuming Hillary Clinton wins, it remains [unclear](#) whether Republicans will try to confirm Merrick Garland during the lame-duck session to prevent her from putting up someone who is younger and more liberal next year.

**The debate took on new significance this week when John McCain [boasted](#) during a radio interview that Republicans would automatically oppose whomever Clinton nominates.** "I promise you that we will be united against any Supreme Court nominee that Hillary Clinton, if she were president, would put up," the Arizona senator said. "I promise you!"

Attacked by his Democratic challenger, McCain's spokeswoman released a statement walking back his comment. The senator will "thoroughly examine the record of any Supreme Court nominee put



before the Senate,” she said. McCain then [awkwardly avoided](#) a local TV reporter who tried to follow up.

**Republicans, who have struggled to convince voters that they are capable of governing, talked a big game in years past about the need to be more than just “the party of no.” That messaging is gone now. The prospect of four more years in the wilderness suggests that they will move back toward unapologetic obstruction.**

Right now, however, they are in damage control mode. **Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, who is up for reelection in Iowa, promised yesterday to not automatically “stonewall” any Clinton pick.** “If that new president happens to be Hillary, we can’t just simply stonewall,” Grassley said on [a conference call with local press](#).

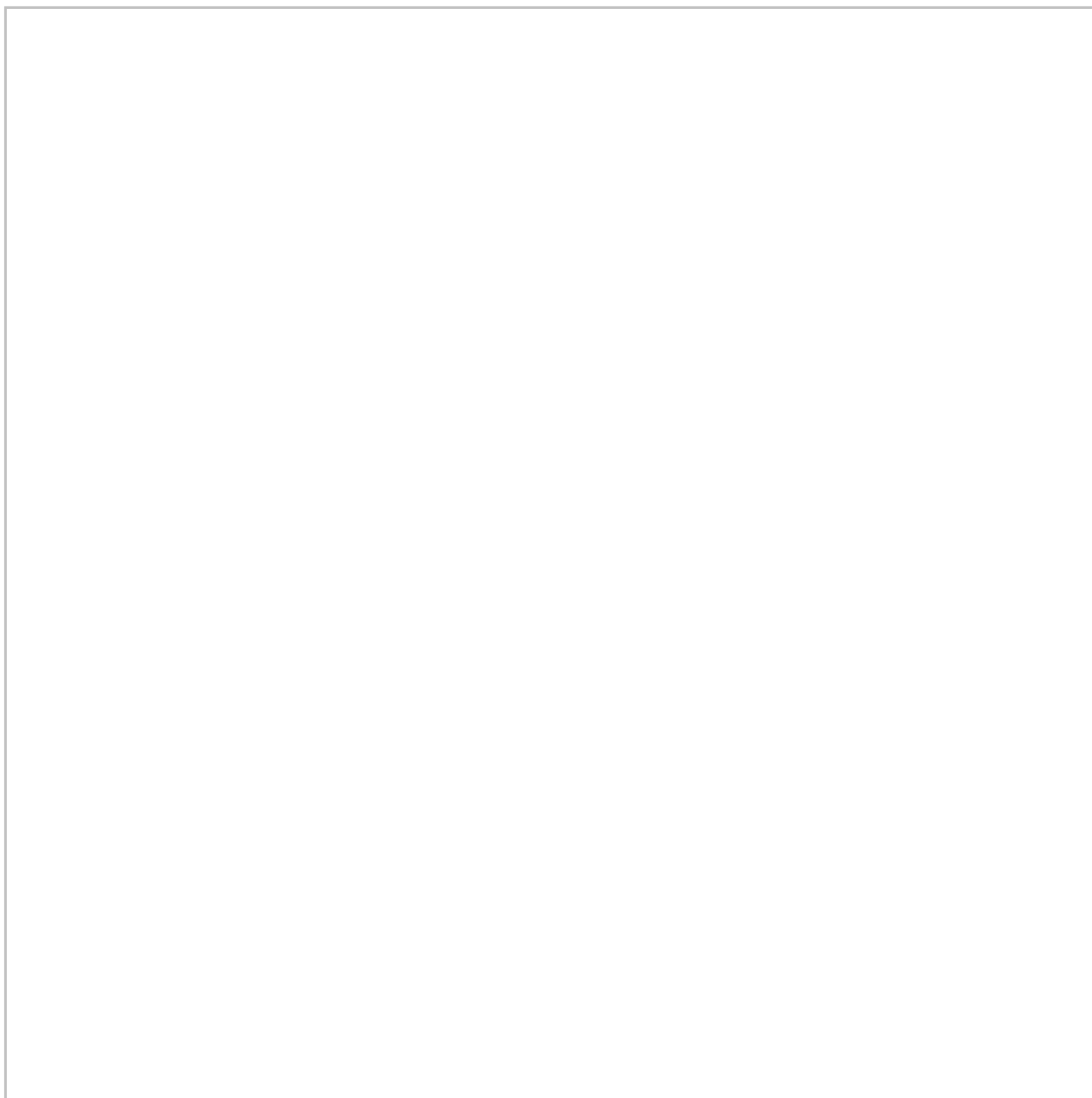
This is a very delicate balancing act. Vulnerable Republican incumbents are trying to convince people who are reluctantly voting for Clinton to support them by promising that they’ll be a check and balance on the excesses of the Clinton presidency. **One man’s “check and balance,” however, is another man’s “obstruction.” Regardless of how you play it, the bottom line is that Republicans are trying to save their majority by promising more gridlock.**

If Republicans hold the Senate, Mitch McConnell will control the floor schedule and Grassley will continue to have the Judiciary gavel. So [they technically could](#) do exactly what they have for the past nine months with Garland.

**Democrats are now favored to win the Senate majority. Even if they run the table, however, they'll only control around 53 seats.**

That is nowhere near filibuster proof. The question then becomes: Which Republicans would cross over to vote for a President Clinton's SCOTUS picks? Could a Majority Leader Chuck Schumer cobble together 60 votes? Or does he invoke the nuclear option and change the rules to allow Supreme Court nominees to be confirmed by a simple majority? **Going nuclear will probably be the easier course, both politically and procedurally**, especially because the Republican blockade of Garland has cost GOP leaders much of their moral standing to oppose such a gambit.

**Contrary to the will of the brilliant men who devised the Constitution, the Senate is increasingly becoming a majoritarian institution. Conservatives, who in principle should be alarmed by this trend, have shortsightedly accelerated it.**



A student standing in for Hillary is captured on the large monitor during a rehearsal for the debate last night at UNLV. (David Goldman/AP)

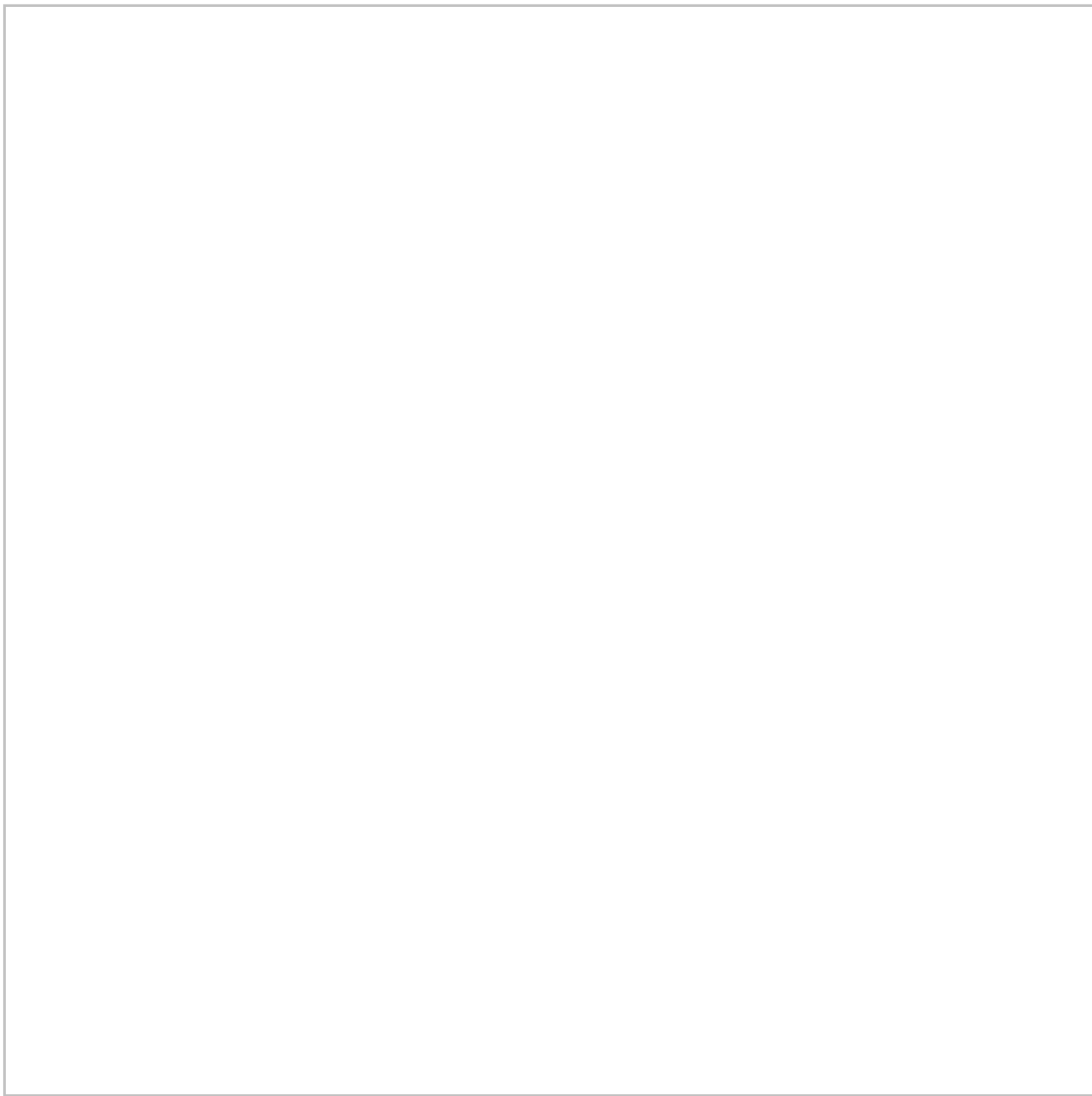
**-- There are two very important SCOTUS questions that the candidates have avoided giving direct answers to:**

**Will Clinton re-nominate Garland?** Watch for her to once again dodge on this. She's called him "extremely well qualified," and she's relying heavily on Barack Obama to get her across the finish line in November. The president sees getting Garland through during the lame-duck as a top priority and a legacy achievement, but Clinton privately wants to pick someone who is younger and more liberal than

the 63-year-old moderate.

**Will Trump commit to nominating only people who are on his list of 21 potential picks?**

Aides have said the list is definitive, but the reality TV star has suggested during interviews that he might go another direction. And he has a very long history of not being true to his word. A few of the people Trump floated have chastised him. Utah Sen. Mike Lee, on the second installment of Trump's list, subsequently called on the GOP nominee to drop out. And, amusingly, federal appellate court Judge Diane Sykes (who was in the first batch of names released by Trump) ruled earlier this month [against](#) Mike Pence. She said the Indiana governor cannot interfere with the distribution of federal funds to resettle Syrian refugees in his state.



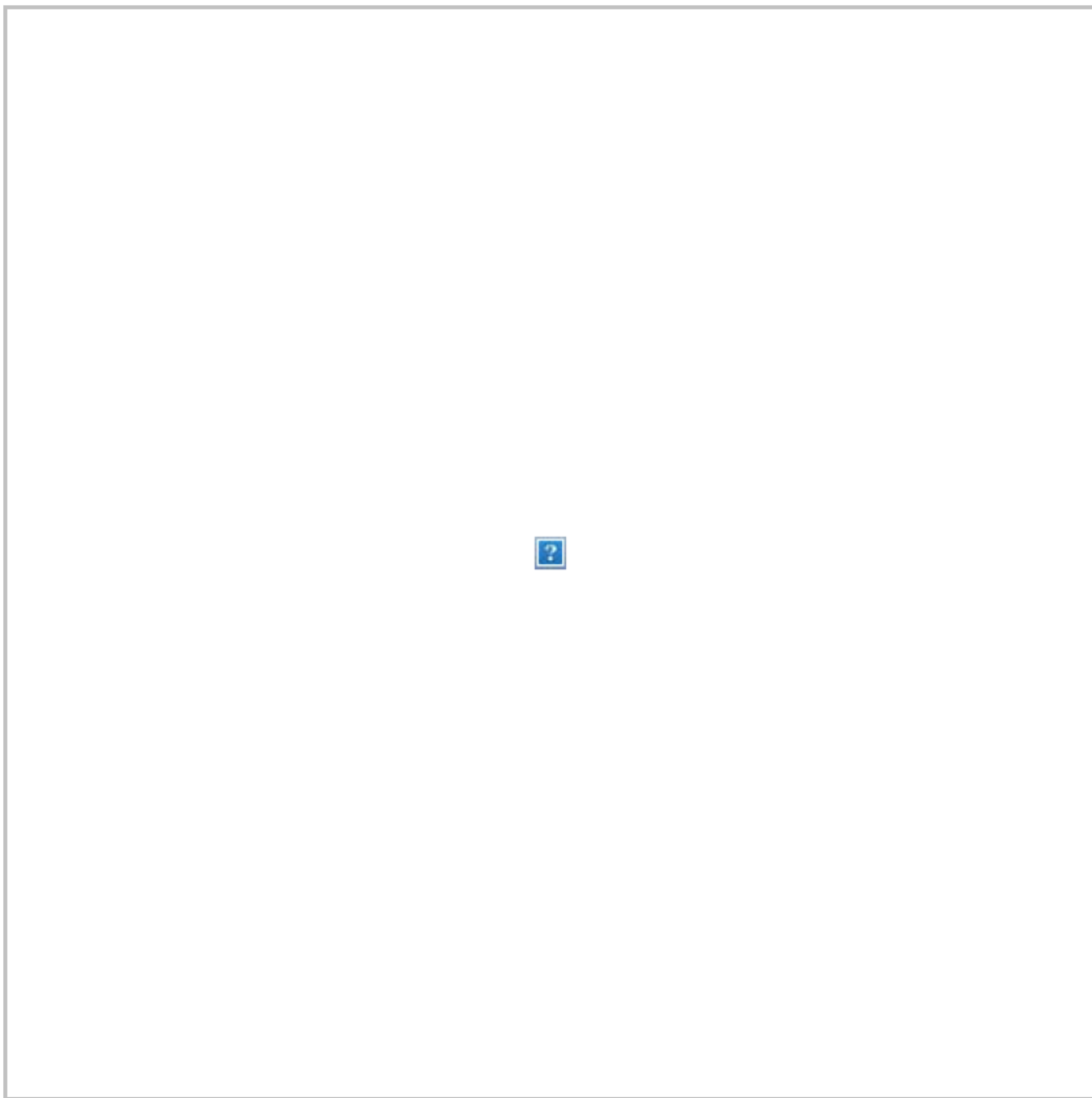
Trump speaks in Grand Junction, Colorado. (George Frey/Getty)

**-- For many conservative intellectuals, stopping Clinton from appointing Scalia's replacement is no longer a good enough reason to support Trump.** Among the Republican politicians who have capitulated, such as Ted Cruz, holding the Scalia seat is a favorite talking point to justify supporting someone who they privately see as dangerously authoritarian. But 29 top conservative legal scholars have signed onto a letter arguing that it is not enough. The "Originalists against Trump" do not believe Trump would protect the Constitution. And they do not trust him to actually pick from his list of

21. “More importantly, we do not trust him to respect constitutional limits in the rest of his conduct in office, of which judicial nominations are only one part,” they write. The group understands that the alternative is Clinton. “Yet our country’s commitment to its Constitution is not so fragile that it can be undone by a single administration or a single court,” they conclude. ([Read the full letter here.](#))

Our [Robert Barnes notes](#) that the signatories include a Northwestern law professor who was one of the founders of the Federalist Society, Steven G. Calabresi; Post columnist George F. Will; and a well-regarded conservative law professor at New York University and the University of Chicago, Richard Epstein. **“The effort was organized by Duke University law professor Stephen E. Sachs and University of Chicago law professor William Baude, a pair of former clerks to Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.”**

**Something to ponder: Will Roberts vote for Trump?** He obviously wants to regain his working majority, but he also hails from Indiana – just like Gonzalo Curiel, the federal judge whom Trump leveled repeated, racially-loaded attacks against. We’ll never know...



Bill greets Melania before the start of the last debate. (Paul J. Richards/AFP/Getty Images)

### **MORE ON WHAT TO EXPECT IN VEGAS TONIGHT:**

-- The other five topics that will get covered from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Eastern are immigration, entitlements/debt, the economy, foreign policy and each candidate's “fitness” to serve as president.

-- Trump's scorched-earth strategy continues. He is bringing as his guests Obama’s estranged half-brother Malik and the mother

**of a Benghazi victim who has accused Clinton of “murdering” her son.** It is unclear whether the campaign will reveal more surprise guests today. Clinton is bringing billionaires Mark Cuban and Meg Whitman in an effort to [rattle Trump over his wealth](#). ([Jose DelReal](#))

**-- Clinton spent much of this week off the trail preparing for their final showdown, a strategy which Trump mocked at a Colorado rally.** He told supporters she was actually at home resting instead. "You know what the debate prep is? It's resting. It's lying down, going to sleep," he said. ([Jenna Johnson](#))

**-- The Clinton campaign has requested that Bill and Melania do not shake hands before tonight's debate.** Last time, Trump planned to parade three women who accused Clinton of sexual assault into the family seating area and force the former president to shake their hands as he crossed the room. ([Jeremy Peters and Maggie Haberman](#), The New York Times)





Chris Wallace moderated the first Republican primary debate in Aug. 2015 in Cleveland. (Aaron Josefczyk/Reuters)

-- **“Chris Wallace’s Debate Role Is a Bright Spot in a Dark Year for Fox,”** by the New York Times’s Michael Grynbaum: Chris is the first Fox journalist to take charge of a general election face-off. “It would be the most consequential night of Fox News’s year — if the network had not just endured the most traumatic period in its two-decade history. [For] the team of Fox anchors and producers (in Vegas) this week, Mr. Wallace’s star turn is a welcome source of pride. And, maybe, some relief. The selection of Mr. Wallace, a veteran broadcaster with a reputation for tough, mischief-making

questions, was particularly bolstering for Fox's news division, which has viewed itself as an unfairly maligned alternative to the network's stable of conservative commentators like Mr. Hannity and Bill O'Reilly."

**-- Politico's Glenn Thrush preemptively declares that "[Clinton will be on the defensive](#)":** "Trump's fitness to lead has, rightly, been the major focus of his conventionally lousy first debate and the national disgrace of his second one. But here's some good news for him! Trump has done such a masterful job of handing Clinton the election that the inevitable focus now is on her! America wants, demands, that final kick-the-tires test, as Barack Obama said of the process – and significant questions remain about her honesty, integrity, judgment and trustworthiness. ... Beatings, like bossa novas, have a predictable rhythm. **Trump's beating (however deserved or self-inflicted) has gone on for too long in terms of the cyclical attention span of modern media, and it's simply Hillary's turn.**"

**-- Trump's odds of turning around his campaign tonight are steep, the [Boston Globe's Matt Viser](#) posits:** "Clinton arrives in Las Vegas for the final debate like a poker player holding a full house, confident and careful. Trump is furiously raising his bet, acting as if he's holding a hot hand, when polls say all he's got is a pair of jacks."

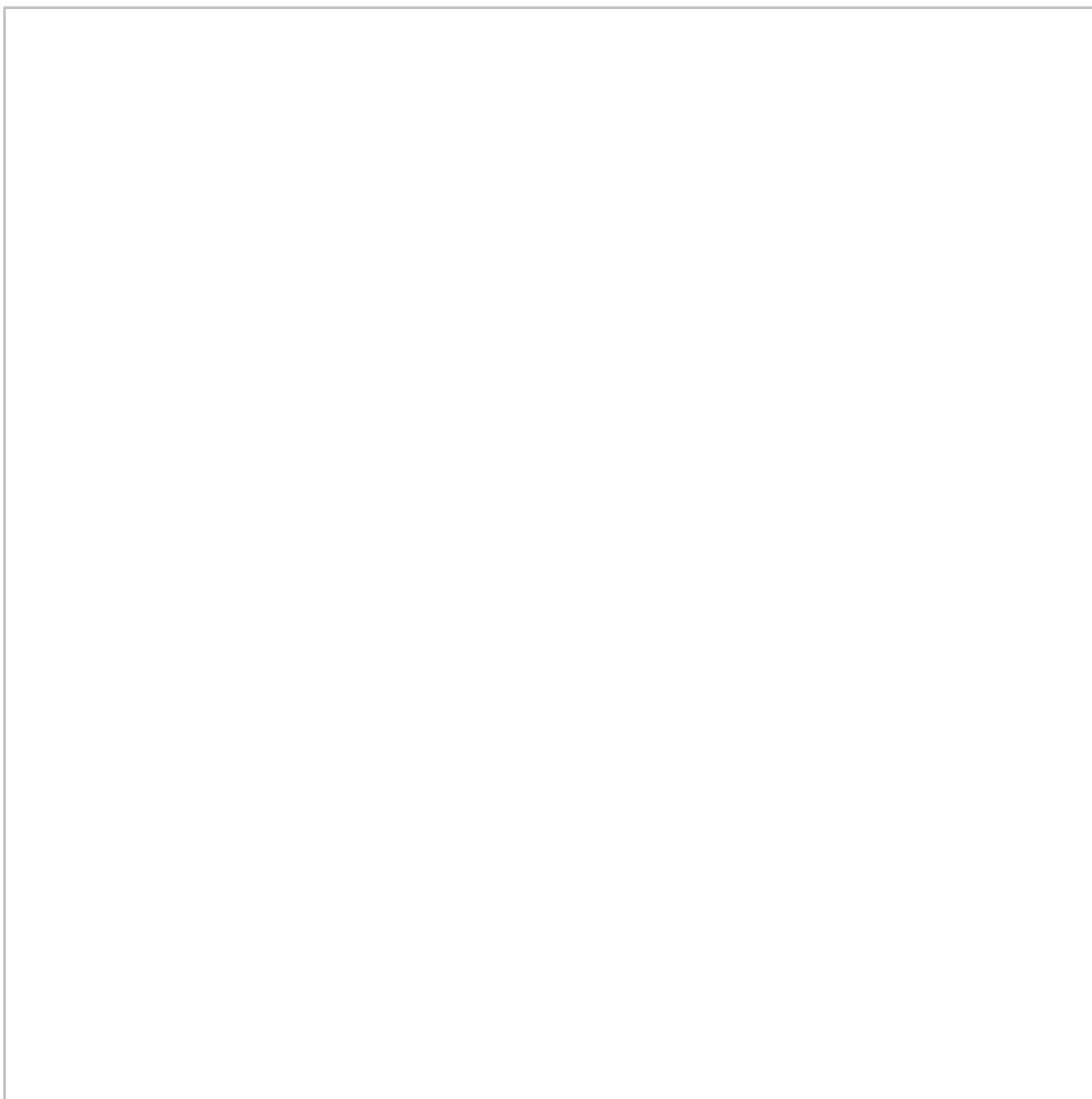
**-- Republicans are praying that Trump does not once again take Clinton's bait, per the Wall Street Journal's [Michael Bender and Laura Meckler](#):** "Democrats want Clinton to articulate a positive vision for the country, rising above the allegations of sexual misconduct and dishonesty that have permeated this election year. ...

Republicans say Trump needs to focus on his popular anti-establishment message and avoid placing any more attention on controversies over his treatment of women or rifts with fellow Republicans. 'For once he needs to make this a race that's not just about him,' said GOP consultant and former Romney adviser Kevin Madden. 'Clinton wants this race to be a referendum on Trump and his lack of temperament, and every time she lays the bait he never disappoints in taking it.'"

Welcome to the Daily 202, **PowerPost's** morning newsletter.  
With contributions from Elise Viebeck ([@eliseviebeck](#)).

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**WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING:**



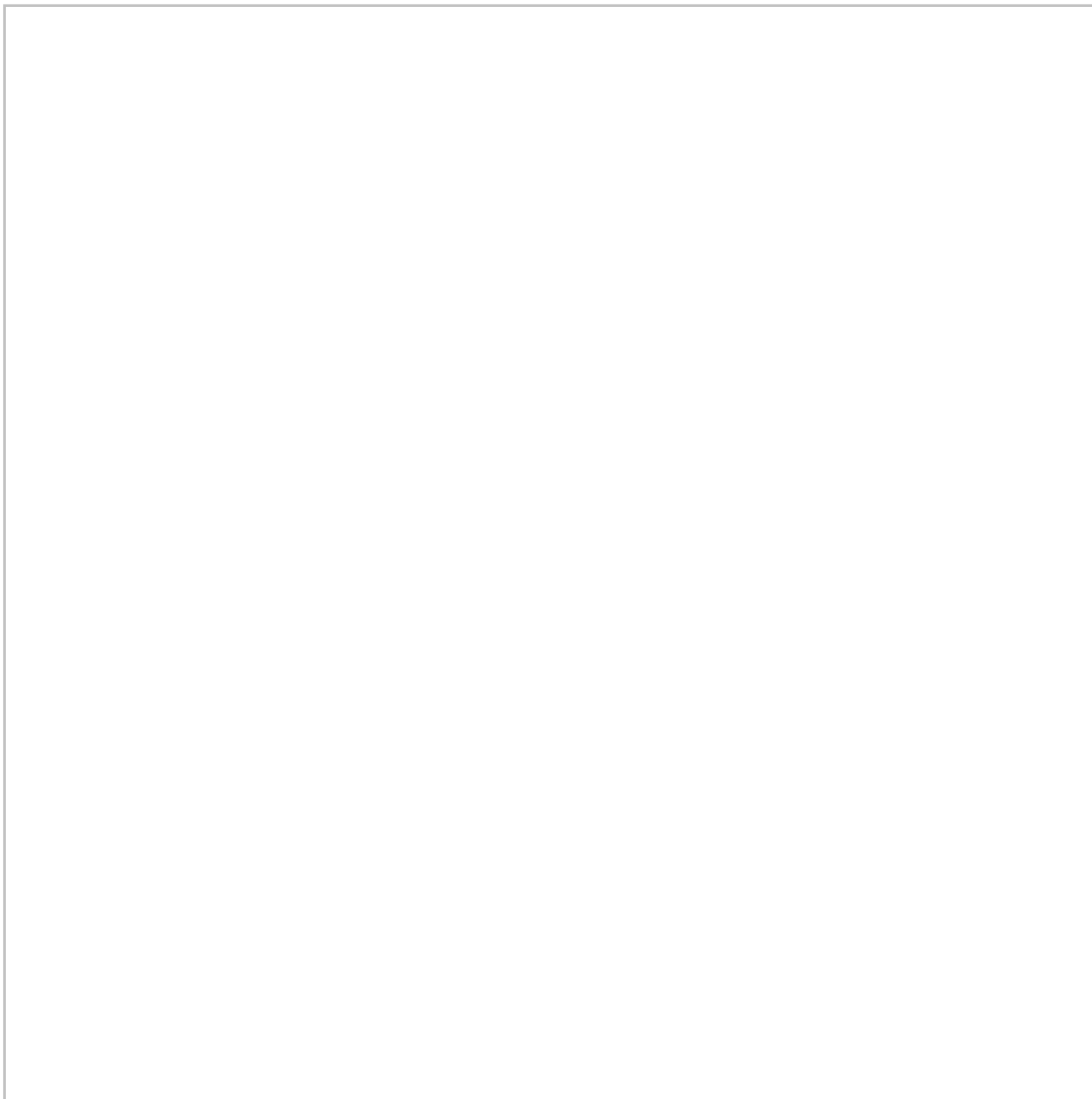
President Obama greets Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi at the White House.  
(EPA/Michael Reynolds)

**-- President Obama hosted his final state dinner, honoring Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and his wife at a celebratory -- yet nostalgic -- reception.** “If there was a collective emotion that defined the night it’d be a mix of joy and pain,” [Helena Andrews-Dyer and Emily Heil wrote](#). “Everyone involved in the Obamas’ last black tie gala felt it. From guest chef Mario Batali, who said that knowing this dinner is the last adds its own brand of pride and pressure, to the president himself, who called the swanky swan song ‘a bittersweet moment.’ Held in a tent on the South Lawn dripping with chandeliers

and dotted with mirrored tables to conjure up the Italian 'fresco' technique, the evening featured a stroll through the first lady's kitchen garden ... a four-course meal prepared by Batali and a performance by Gwen Stefani ... But despite the night's obvious symbolism as a denouement the dinner's guests probably took the opening lines of the president's traditional toast to heart: **'In the immortal words of a great Italian American, Yogi Berra, 'It ain't over 'till it's over.'"**

The Obamas rewarded many of their most loyal staffers with seats at the dinner. **Among the 380 guests were the first lady's hair stylist, makeup artist, and personal trainer...**

FLOTUS wore a custom rose-gold chain-mail gown from Atelier Versace. It was a slinky gown with an asymmetrical neckline that slithered like liquid metal down her torso and around her hips. "It was pure Hollywood glamour," [writes Fashion Critic Robin Givhan](#).



The Ecuadorian national flag flies outside their embassy in London today. (Alastair Grant/AP)

**-- Ecuador acknowledged that it “temporarily restricted” the Internet access of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange at its United Kingdom embassy after WikiLeaks posted John Podesta's emails.** A foreign ministry statement said that while it stands by its decision in 2012 to grant Assange asylum, it doesn’t interfere in foreign elections. The ministry didn’t specify the extent of the restrictions on Assange’s cyber access, saying only that the limitations wouldn’t affect WikiLeaks’s ability to carry out its journalistic activities. Do not forget: Assange is hiding out in the

embassy to avoid facing trial for alleged sexual assault. ([Nick Miroff](#))

**-- Marco Rubio urged Trump and the RNC to stop attacking Clinton over hacked emails published by Wikileaks:** "As our intelligence agencies have said, these leaks are an effort by a foreign government to interfere with our electoral process and I will not indulge it," Rubio told [ABC News's Jon Karl in an interview](#). "Further, I want to warn my fellow Republicans who may want to capitalize politically on these leaks: Today it is the Democrats. Tomorrow it could be us."

**-- Speaking of insecure email servers, Trump lives in a glass house.** From Mother Jones' [Joseph Cox](#): "A researcher has found that a number of email servers linked to [Trump's] hotel and others businesses are running horribly out of date software which receive no security patches, and are lacking other precautions for keeping hackers out." A number of mail servers for TrumpOrg.com, a domain registered to The Trump Organization, are using end-of-life software, including the operating system Windows Server 2003 and IIS 6.0. "Running outdated software and operating systems for your publicly facing email infrastructure is problematic, especially when you're a high profile organisation," said security architect Kevin Beaumont. "During an election where cybersecurity is such a big issue, I was a little amazed at what I saw."



Filipino villagers gather as they prepare for a super typhoon that may hit their village. (EPA)

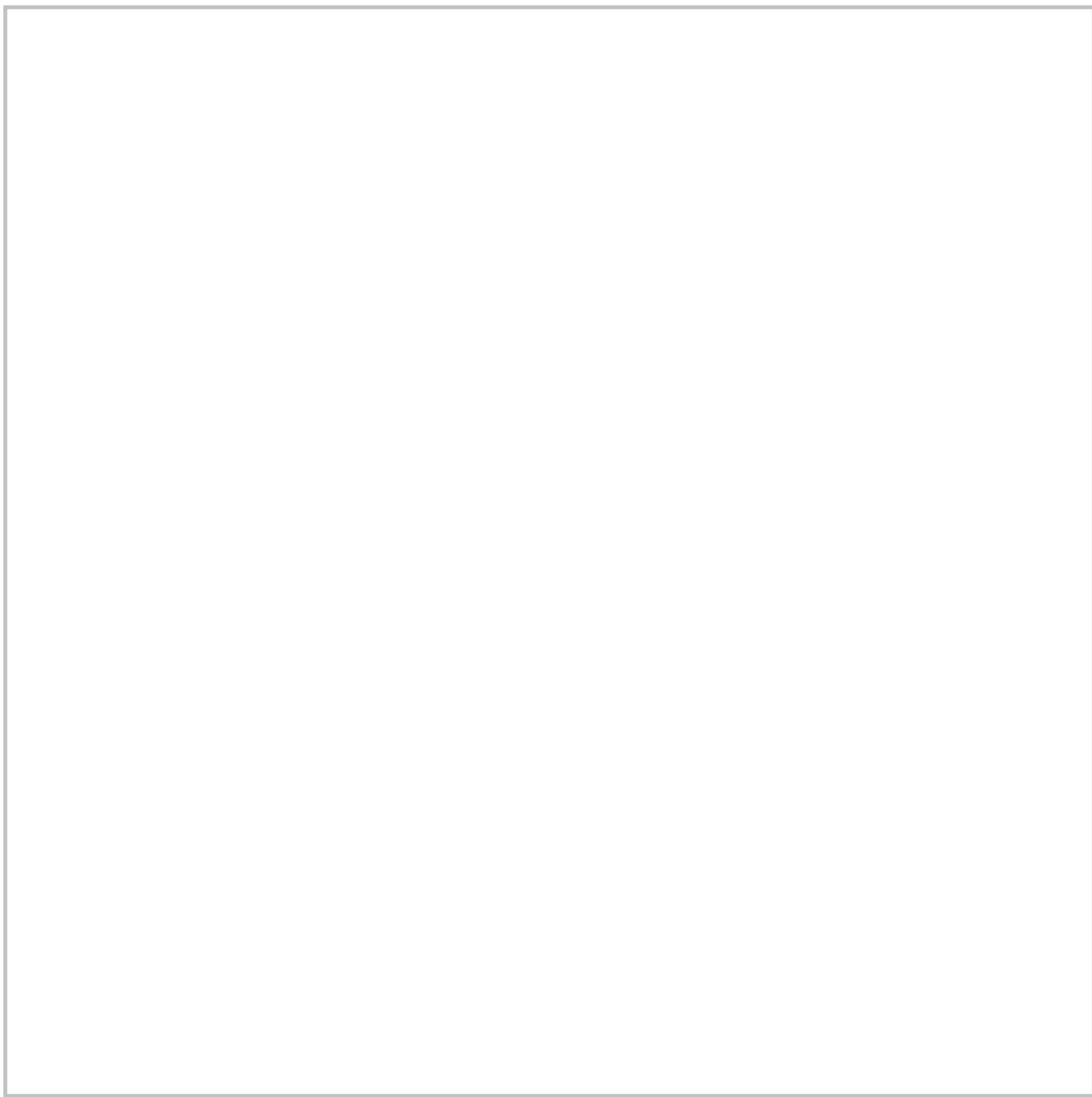
### GET SMART FAST:

1. **A dangerous super typhoon is spinning like a table saw towards the Philippines, barreling down with Category-5 level winds of 160 mph.** Local emergency managers are warning storm surge could exceed 15 feet when it makes landfall. The storm's arrival comes just days after *another* typhoon struck the country, killing at least two people. ([Angela Fritz](#))



2. **A former Arkansas judge has been arrested and accused of giving lenient sentences to male defendants in exchange for sexual favors – soliciting at least nine men between the ages of 16 and 22 for what he referred to as “community service.”** ([Kristine Guerra](#))
3. **A magistrate judge delivered a victory to a transgender high school student in Illinois, allowing her to continue to use a bathroom and locker room corresponding with her gender identity.** ([Derek Hawkins](#))
4. **More police officers have been killed in the line of duty so far this year than all of last year combined.** But federal statistics also show that being a law enforcement officer has continually gotten safer over the last four decades. Since the 1970s, the death toll for cops decreased by more than half. ([Mark Berman](#))
5. **Warring parties in Yemen agreed to a 72-hour ceasefire.** The U.N. hopes the temporary truce will lead to a “permanent and lasting end” to the conflict. ([AP](#))
6. **A new lawsuit accuses public schools in Flint, Mich., of failing to meet obligations to screen children for lead exposure.** The complaint alleges that the city’s public school system has also failed to provide critical services and interventions to counter the effects of lead exposure. ([Emma Brown](#))
7. **The University of Maryland agreed to hire more staff to address sexual assault on campus, after reports that a faculty shortage was slowing down open investigations. Student government leaders proposed a student fee to help fund the office.** ([Susan Svrluga](#))

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8. **Samsung is setting up pop-up phone exchange booths at airports across the country, allowing busy travelers to trade in Galaxy 7 smartphones that were recently banned from all U.S. flights.** But it's unclear what devices the kiosks will offer in replacement – and, as [Hayley Tsukayama](#) notes, a crowded airport is probably not the ideal place to make such a major purchase.
  9. **The Transylvania castle that inspired the “Dracula” novels will be open to two brave souls on Halloween night, thanks to an Airbnb contest.** Winners will spend the night in the 14th century digs, eating by candlelight and sleeping in velvet-lined coffins. ([Cleve R. Wootson Jr.](#))



Members of the Iraqi Special Operations Forces outside Mosul today. (Azad Lashkari/Reuters)

-- A dispatch from the front lines --> [\*\*"Evidence of a 'difficult fight' ahead as forces move toward ISIS-held Mosul,"\*\*](#) by Kareem Fahim and Loveday Morris: "To defend a few miles of unremarkable road in northern Iraq, flanked by farmland, the occasional factory and flyspeck hamlets and villages, the Islamic State militants seemed to spare no effort. They loaded a Volkswagen with explosives and secreted remote-detonated bombs ... They burned tires and dug large tunnels in houses ... The arsenal ultimately failed to protect the militants. But it seemed to slow down the action, tying up a large

contingent of Iraqi soldiers as they tried to clear the road and villages of booby traps, a few wearying feet at a time. There were still 12 grueling miles left to travel before reaching the city's outskirts. The struggle for Mosul ... is the largest and most complex so far in the battle against [ISIS] militants, who have been digging in for a fight. Residents who have recently fled the area ... say the Islamic State has been erecting concrete barricades and filling trenches with oil that can be set on fire to slow advancing forces. 'It's going to be a tough fight and a difficult fight,' Obama said on Tuesday. 'But my expectation is that ultimately it will be successful.'"



Makia Nunes, moments after she became a U.S. citizen yesterday, kisses a cardboard cutout of Hillary. She registered to vote immediately after her Naturalization Ceremony in Los Angeles. (Frederic J. Brown/AFP/Getty Images)

## **THE RACE CONTINUES TO MOVE AWAY FROM TRUMP:**

-- The chairman of a pro-Trump super PAC, Ed Rollins, told [Laura Ingraham](#) that it “would take a miracle at this point” for Trump to win.

-- Pre-spinning the loss, Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway says she cannot believe Clinton is not winning by a bigger margin given her numerous built-in advantages: “She has endless money. She’s got a lot of the media. She has a very popular president and first lady campaigning for her,” Conway [told Anderson Cooper](#). “I will tell you, I am mystified as to why she can’t get to those 52, 53 percent numbers in some of these states given the disadvantages we’re handed every day.”

-- Las Vegas bookies now have Clinton as [a six-to-one favorite](#).

-- A Washington Post/Survey Monkey poll of 15 battleground states gives Clinton a “decisive advantage” over Trump in the competition for Electoral College votes. From [Dan Balz and Scott Clement](#): “Based on the results ... along with assumptions of the likely outcomes in other states that have consistently voted for one party or the other, [Clinton] holds leads of four percentage points or more among likely voters in states that add up to 304 electoral votes. Trump, [meanwhile], has the advantage in states with an estimated electoral vote total of 138. Arizona, Florida, Ohio and Texas, which account for 96 electoral votes, remain as toss-ups.”

**Down-ballot Republicans continue to outperform Trump in our survey:** “Democrats need a net gain of five seats to take outright control -- four to exercise control if Clinton becomes president. The results showed Democrats with leads of four or more points in three states with GOP incumbents: New Hampshire, North Carolina and Wisconsin. Republican incumbents lead in Florida and Ohio, in the latter by a wide margin. Meanwhile, races in Nevada, for a seat currently held by Democrats, and Pennsylvania, for a seat now in Republican hands, continue to be close.”

**-- A [Bloomberg Politics poll](#) shows Clinton with a 9 point national lead (50-41). The two tied last month.** Trump is losing support among both men and those without college degrees. “This poll shows movement toward Clinton with all the right groups it takes to win,” said pollster J. Ann Selzer. “Their alignment with Clinton is a formidable change in the algebra.”

**-- An [Arizona Republic/Arizona State University](#) poll shows Clinton AHEAD in ARIZONA by 5 points.** Waning support for the Republican nominee does not appear to have shifted down-ballot, however, with McCain leading by 11 points over Democratic challenger Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick. **Support for the presidential candidates also appears to be somewhat baked into the cake, with two-thirds of voters saying they were not influenced by the previous two debates.** Of respondents who indicated the debate was influential, 16 percent said they were more likely to back Clinton. 9 percent said the same of Trump.

**-- The [University of Houston](#) finds Trump is only ahead by 3 points in Texas (41-38).**

-- [St. Norbert College](#) shows Clinton leading by 8 points in Wisconsin (47-39).

-- [Monmouth University](#) puts Clinton up 7 points in Nevada (47-40). Her surge in the state is largely attributed to younger, non-white voters moving into her column over the past month.

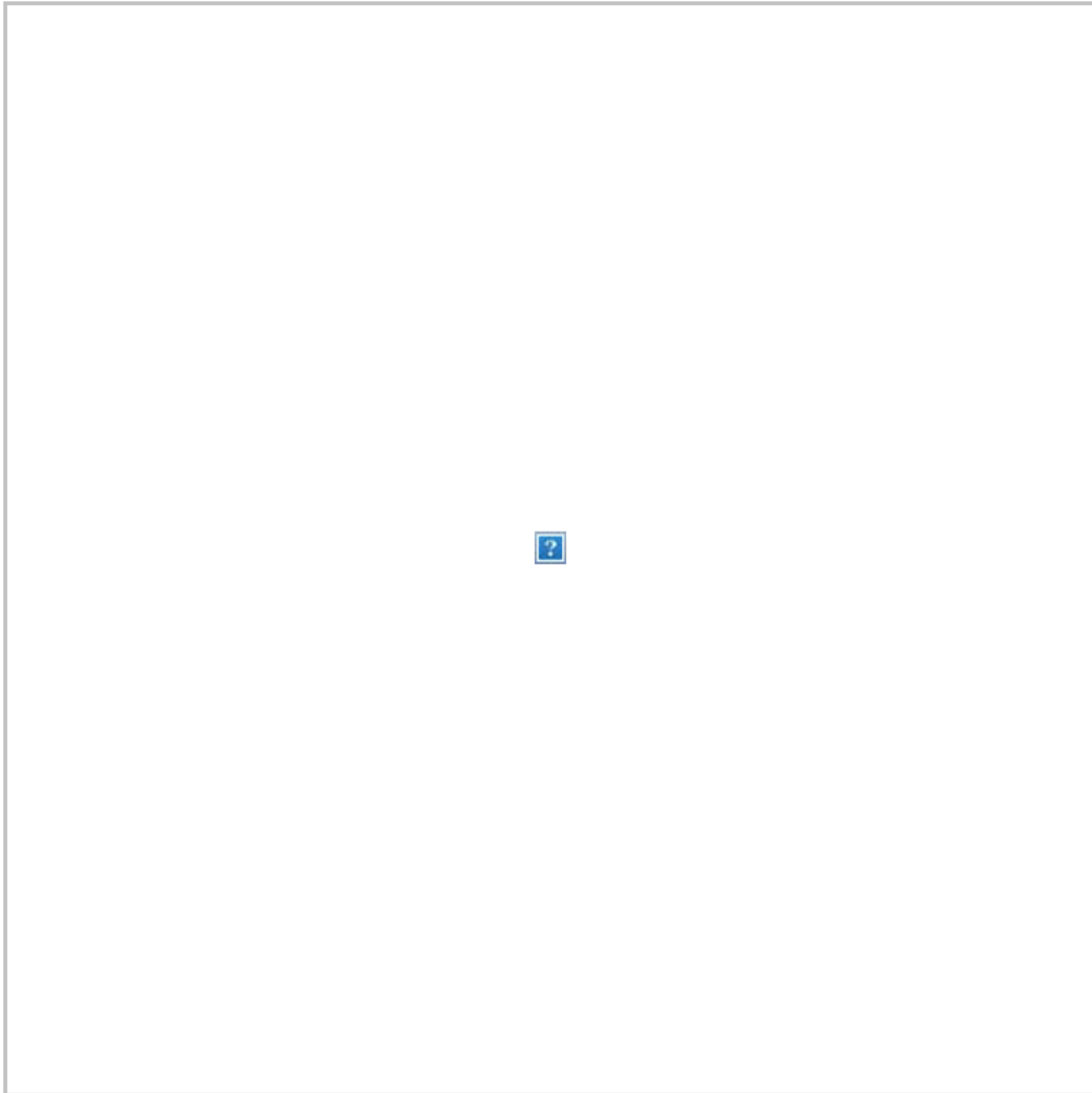
-- A [Fox News national poll](#) shows Clinton up 6 points (45-39).

-- The Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun conducted a poll asking which candidate people thought would be more appropriate as the U.S. president. They found that only 3 percent of Japanese picked Trump, while 73 percent preferred Clinton. The rest had no opinion. The wording is non-traditional, but WaPo pollster Scott Clement checked out the paper's methodology and says it is legit. This will not surprise close poll watchers. [Previous international surveys](#) have found Trump to be exceptionally unpopular.

-- **Fear of an imminent terrorist attack is one of the top concerns of people across the globe**, with most expecting extremist groups will acquire weapons of mass destruction, according to a new poll conducted in eight countries. From [Carol Morello](#): "The [survey, commissioned by the Center for Strategic and International Studies](#) (CSIS), showed that many people think their governments are not doing enough to combat violent extremism. And a majority in every country polled, including the United States, overwhelmingly approved all 21 options presented to them — among them, requiring identification cards for citizens and visitors; rigorous screening of immigrants; bans on incendiary religious speech; and monitoring of



phone calls, emails and social media."



Clinton takes a selfie with the crowd at a voter registration rally at Wayne State University in Detroit. (Reuters/Lucy Nicholson)

## **THE DAILY HILLARY:**

**-- Former FBI agent Brian McCauley pushed back on allegations of a “quid pro quo.” He confirmed that he spoke to a top State Department official about changing the classified status of one of Clinton’s emails, as well as a long-standing FBI request for additional staffing in U.S. embassies, but he denied that any**



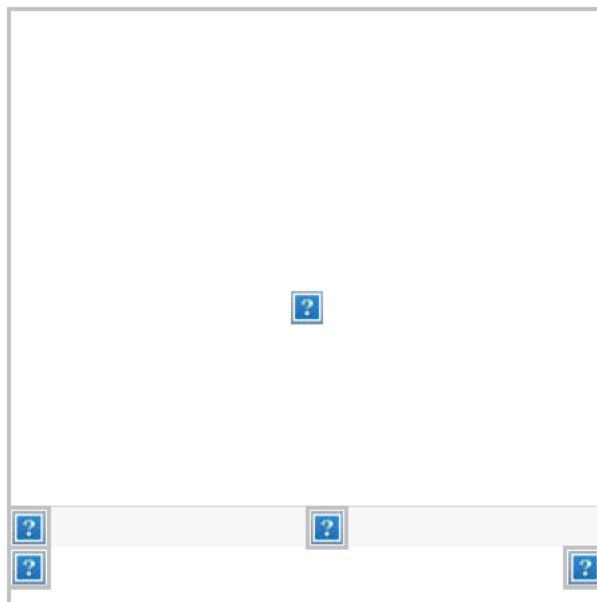
**inappropriate collusion ever took place.** In an interview with [Matt Zapotosky](#), McCauley acknowledged that he offered to do a favor in exchange for another favor, but before he had any inkling of what Kennedy wanted. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015. McCauley said that when he learned the missive concerned the attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, he told Kennedy he could not help him. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015.

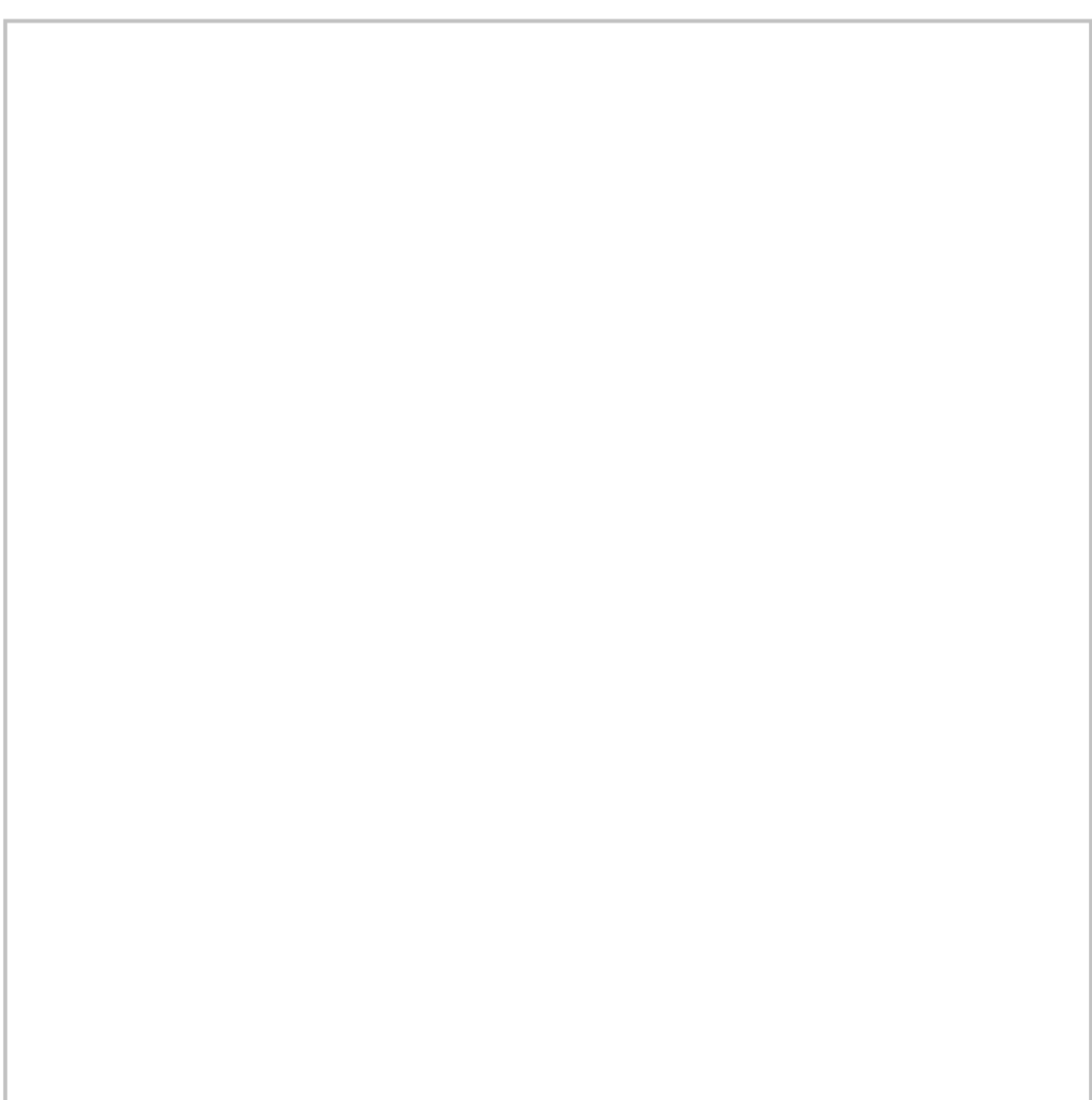
**-- “Black activists and organizers, frustrated with the Clinton campaign’s inability to engage young voters, have taken it upon themselves to challenge their peers to consider the consequences if Republicans take the White House,”** [Vanessa Williams reports](#). “They also have encouraged young voters to focus on state and local elections, because those officials make decisions about how police departments and schools are run, issues that more directly affect their lives. Younger African Americans, like many millennials, are not excited about this year’s presidential election ... [but] because Trump’s campaign has laid bare racist attitudes, the seeming indifference of black millennials to the election has sparked broad discussion within the African American community.”

**-- Seventy Nobel Laureates endorsed Clinton, arguing that her election is “crucial for safeguarding freedom and preserving a constitutional government.”** Signatories include world-renowned

experts in science, medicine and economics, such as chemist Peter Agre, economist Robert Shiller, and physicist Robert Woodrow Wilson. Separately, a group of 140 conservative writers urged voters to reject Trump, calling him “most dangerous to our nation’s founding ideals” in an open letter. Several former Republican White House staffers are on the list. ([New York Times](#))

ADVERTISEMENT





John Podesta boards the Clinton campaign plane in White Plains, New York, yesterday en route to Las Vegas. (Lucy Nicholson/Reuters)

-- **An early draft of Clinton's V.P. list:** John Podesta in mid-March emailed Clinton a preliminary list of names to consider for her running mate, organized into what he termed "rough food groups." WikiLeaks posted it yesterday, and [the Journal wrote it up](#):

The first group included her **Latino options**, including Secretary of Labor Tom Perez and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julián Castro.

The second consisted of **black candidates**, including Cory Booker and Eric Holder.

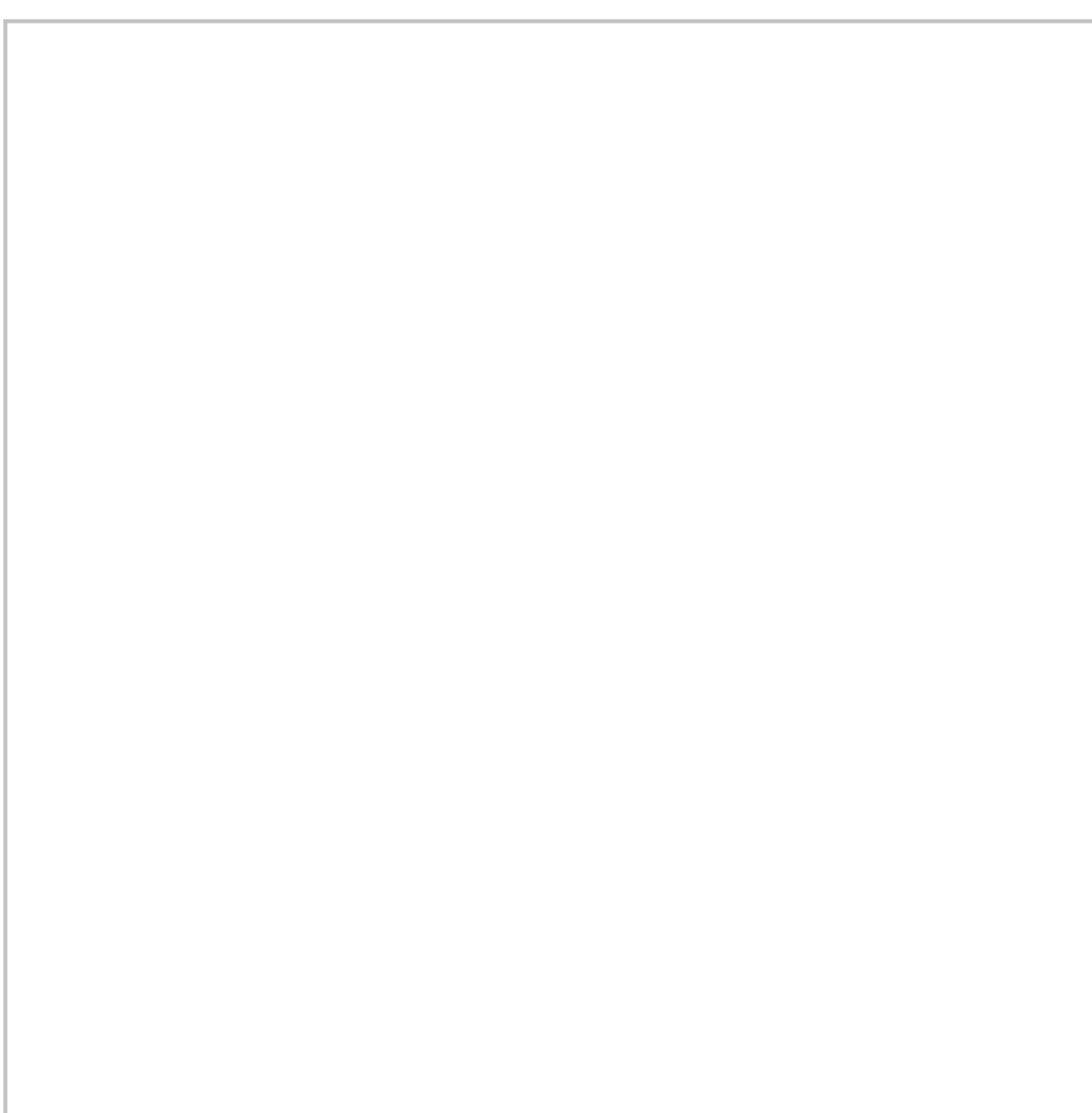
The third was **white men who could help in a swing state**, including Tim Kaine, Terry McAuliffe and Sherrod Brown.

Another section included **seven women**, including Elizabeth Warren and Jeanne Shaheen.

He also suggested **three military names**, including retired Marine Corps Gen. John Allen.

Podesta also floated **corporate options**, including Bill Gates, Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, Michael Bloomberg; Apple CEO Tim Cook and Coca-Cola Co. CEO Muhtar Kent.

The final category had just one name: **Bernie Sanders**.



Melania, Ivanka, Eric and Donald Trump, Jr. wait for the start of the second debate St. Louis. (John Locher/AP)

## **THE DAILY DONALD:**

-- **People Magazine published six stories** from friends and colleagues of Trump accuser **Natasha Stoyanoff**, corroborating her accusation that the **Republican nominee forced himself on her in 2005**. Two people who went on the record are now People editors - deputy East Coast editor Mary Green and East Coast editor Liz McNeil. Another is Stoyanoff's former journalism professor, who says she called him looking for advice immediately afterwards. And

yet another friend went on the record to back her claims that she ran into Melania Trump on Fifth Avenue after the assault. The report comes as both Donald and Melania have denied the story and threatened legal action.

**-- Video surfaced yesterday of Trump attacking Condi Rice in 2006: "I wish she was a b\*\*ch," he said.** "I don't care if she's a lovely woman. I want somebody that can go and make deals. She goes to countries, nothing ever happens. Except sound bytes." When asked if she had any response to the New York Daily News report on Trump's remarks, the former secretary of state emailed [CNN](#): "Can't wait until November 9!"

**-- Trump's alleged misconduct has started a national conversation about sexual assault.** From [Katie Zezima](#): "The debate has been particularly painful for many victims of sexual assault, who now must endure nonstop coverage of allegations of groping and kissing without consent — along with backlash against the women who made the claims about Trump. But in the 2016 presidential election, the issue has become sharply divided along partisan lines, including claims by some Trump allies that the behavior described by Trump's accusers ... might not be considered assault. The resistance against the accusers is particularly awkward for the Trump campaign, which simultaneously argues that women who accused Bill Clinton of wrongdoing years ago should be believed." GOP strategist Ashley O'Connor said that Trump is essentially saying, "You need to believe the people who have come forward and accused [Bill]. You need to believe that [Hillary] was attacking these women. But don't believe the women who have come

forward against me.”

**-- Melania is taking a page from the old Hillary playbook:** “Until now, Melania Trump has declined to fulfill the mundane tasks of political wives, saying her duties to her young son are more important than the demand that a spouse go along for the ride to ‘humanize’ a candidate,” [Karen Tumulty writes](#). “Now, however, she has found herself in a time-honored duty for a political wife when a sex scandal hits — cleanup. [But] even as she defends her husband, [Melania] is willing to go only so far: In a moment where the script would appear to call for her to share a little more about ‘the man I know,’ she offered no personal glimpses of their lives. There was nothing more revealing than what one might hear in a campaign ad — outside, perhaps, her observation that she feels like she is living with two boys, not one.”

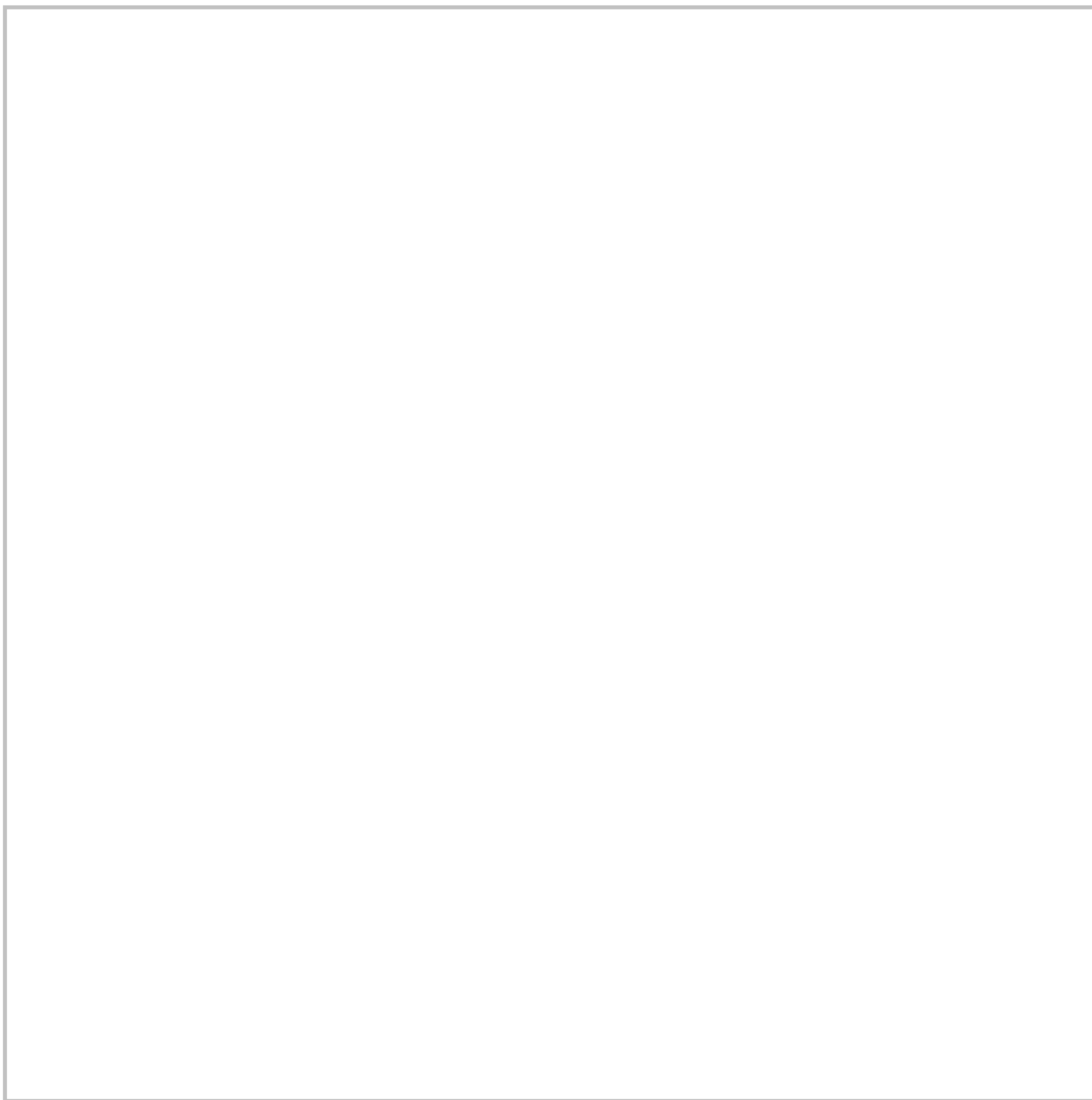
**-- Ivanka addressed her father’s lewd 2005 remarks for the first time, telling [Fast Company](#) that his conversation with Billy Bush was “clearly inappropriate and offensive.”** “I’m glad that he acknowledged this fact with an immediate apology to my family and the American people,” she added in a statement.

**-- Donald Jr. has made a series of offensive statements during interviews with shock-jock radio hosts.** CNN’s Andrew Kaczynski unearthed a [trove of controversial remarks](#) from the candidate’s son:

- **He joked about the Aurora movie theater shooting *on the same day 12 people were killed*:** After footage was played from a witness recounting the tragedy, Trump Jr. quipped that the survivor will still give the film “two thumbs up.”

- **He joked about child abuse at beauty pageants:** "They yell at the kids like, yeah 'You didn't do good, you forgot to turn! You forgot your turn!'" a host said, depicting the role of a stage parent. "The kids, they're crying," Trump Jr. said. "I just wanna play with Barbie." "She beats me when you're not here," said the host. "She's like limping," added Trump Jr., mocking a child's voice. "Help me, help me." **Trump Jr. added of the moms at beauty pageants, "They're all fat. Ugly."**
- **On not being able to mock overweight people:** "By the way you can't ... even make fat jokes now ... that's almost the worst one," he said. "It's easier to, like, do a racial thing, than it is a fat one because everyone knows they're fat and they get really offended."





Trump tells supporters to 'watch' St. Louis, Philadelphia and Chicago for voter fraud

**-- Doubling down on his rigged election rhetoric, Trump yesterday provided his supporters with a list of three cities where they should watch for corruption on Election Day.** "Take a look at St. Louis. Take a look at Philadelphia. Take a look at Chicago," Trump said in Colorado. "Look, look, if nothing else, people are going to be watching on November 8. Watch Philadelphia. Watch St. Louis. Watch Chicago, watch Chicago. Watch so many other places." (Two of those cities are in states that are not considered competitive, [Jenna Johnson notes](#).)

**-- Local election officials are panicking that Trump's reckless rhetoric will lead his supporters to bring guns to polling places, but they're mostly powerless to do anything about it:** "The Prince William County (Virginia) electoral board ... considered seeking a one-day ban on weapons at polling places located on private property but was rebuked by a gun-friendly state legislator," [Patricia Sullivan reports](#). "Del. Robert G. Marshall (R-Prince William) sent a letter to the board pointing out that it has no power to ban guns from polling places except for schools and courthouses, where weapons are prohibited by state law. ... Virginia's election officials have been discussing on their private email list the possibility of intimidation or violence Nov. 8 and talking about what to do about unruly observers. ... Seventy of Prince William's 91 polling places are in schools, with the remaining 21 in churches, fire halls and community centers. Firearms are allowed in county government buildings, such as fire stations, libraries and community centers."

**-- Trump called for a Constitutional amendment to put in place congressional term limits, but he provided no details about the details.** ([Jenna Johnson](#))



Supporters of Nicolas Maduro display a giant inflatable dummy depicting late President Hugo Chavez in Caracas. (Juan Barreto/Getty)

-- **Venezuelan journalist and political scientist [Francisco Toro](#) argues that Trump really is much more like Nicolás Maduro than Hugo Chavez:** “Again and again, since taking over in 2013, Maduro has run roughshod over the constitution in ways Chávez never dared to ... [and] for Venezuelans, the past year has been an object lesson in how dangerous this approach can be. Last week, we followed this crazy dynamic off the deep end, when the court overturned 800 years of constitutional practice, dating back to the original Magna Carta, ruling that when the constitution says the legislative branch has to

vote on the national budget, it means the president can just approve budgets on his own. ... **Having your democracy commit suicide under the lure of a charismatic demagogue is not the kind of experience you can fully make sense of unless you've lived it in your own skin.** Before 2016, no explanation I could give my American friends was enough. Now, my American friends can just turn on CNN and watch it happening live.”

### **THE BATTLEGROUND:**

-- **A civil rights group filed a federal lawsuit to force Virginia to extend its voter registration period, after the state's online system crashed on Monday.** The technological glitch prohibited registration from an unknown number of participants. Some have estimated the number to be in the “tens of thousands.” ([Laura Vozzella](#))

-- **Pro-Clinton super PAC Priorities USA announced it will begin airing ads in two Senate races and will start airing television and radio ads in Georgia to boost Clinton.** “New ads will support Gov. Maggie Hassan in the New Hampshire Senate race against Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte and Katie McGinty in the Pennsylvania Senate race against Sen. Patrick J. Toomey,” [Abby Phillip writes](#). “The super PAC also plans a new seven-figure television ad buy in Georgia in addition to new radio ads targeted at African American voters. The state has not been won by the Democratic presidential nominee since 1992.”

-- **DNC officials issued an apology after one of its campaign buses was recorded illegally dumping sewage into a Georgia**

**storm drain, calling the leak an “honest” but “unacceptable” mistake.** The driver of the bus – adorned with larger-than-life faces of Clinton and Kaine – said the vehicle’s sewage tank was full and leaking out. A guy in an auto parts repair store spotted him and record it. ([Katie Mettler](#))

**-- The race for Rep. Barbara Comstock’s House seat in Northern Virginia has tightened.** From [Jenna Portnoy](#): The Cook Political Report is moving the race up to toss-up, while the Rothenberg & Gonzales Political Report already considers it a toss-up district, tilting to the Republican. “Experts consider the district among the most competitive in the nation despite lackluster fundraising numbers from Democratic challenger LuAnn Bennett and evidence [Trump] might not be the anchor on down-ballot candidates some had expected,” Portnoy writes. The two will face off this morning for the final debate of the campaign.

**-- “[Clinton Challenges Trump for a Traditional Republican Bloc: White Catholics](#),” by the New York Times's Jason Horowitz in Philly:** “Since the election of Ronald Reagan, white Roman Catholics have flocked to Republican nominees for a raft of reasons, including their stances on social issues like abortion and same-sex marriage. But this year, something seems different. ‘Trump is the exception to the rule,’ said 67-year-old Carol Robinson, leaving an afternoon prayer meeting in Philadelphia. ‘He’s a loose cannon.’ Roman Catholics are the country’s second-largest religious group after evangelical Protestants, and they are as diverse as the country itself, with young liberals, cultural conservatives and, increasingly, Democratic-leaning Hispanics.”

**One quiet influencer could be Pope Francis**, wh emphasizes inclusion and the welfare of the poor over divisive issues like abortion and homosexuality. In February, he suggested Trump “is not a Christian.”

**-- Harry Reid reflects on when Trump used to be one of his donors in [an interview with Paul Kane](#):** “Reid found a priceless piece of memorabilia recently while sorting through 34 years of congressional papers. It’s a picture of Reid with [Trump], inside the real-estate developer’s Manhattan home, both men smiling. He’s pretty sure it’s from 1992, when [he] was running his first Senate reelection bid and when [Trump] was happy to help Democrats. Reid appreciated Trump’s generosity. ‘He wasn’t much of a big shot then, neither was I,’ Reid recalled ... Over the years when Trump was a reliable donor to Senate Democrats, Reid saw no signs of a future Republican presidential candidate who he would later eviscerate as a ‘racist’ and a ‘human leech.’ Now, heading into political twilight, the former boxer is clearly relishing what is essentially his last campaign through attacks on Trump ... ‘I’m kind of an unusual politician,’ he said.”



Libertarian Lucy Brenton, Democrat Evan Bayh and Republican Todd Young debate in Indianapolis last night. (AP Photo/Michael Conroy, Pool)

## **SENATE DEBATES:**

-- **“Indiana’s Senate race got personal Tuesday,” the [Indianapolis Star’s](#) Maureen Groppe and James Briggs write.**

“After weeks of attacking each other in campaign commercials, former Sen. Evan Bayh and GOP Rep. Todd Young directly accused each other of not representing Hoosiers’ interests in their [sole debate] ... Young repeatedly charged Bayh, a Democrat, with following the orders of Washington insiders and looking out for



himself. 'Evan Bayh took the money and ran,' Young said after criticizing Bayh's vote for the Affordable Care Act. 'He joined a major lobbying firm in Washington, D.C., and he represented clients that needed relief from the very problem he created from Obamacare.' Bayh said Young has voted against the needs of veterans, seniors and workers who are losing their jobs to overseas competition. And he accused Young of lying about his record. 'Congressman Young has told so many whoppers here tonight, it's hard to keep track,'" Bayh said.

**-- The final debate between Sen. Ron Johnson and Democrat Russ Feingold also turned personal, the [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel's Bill Glauber reports](#):** "Skirmishing over campaign finance, national security, the economy and the presidential candidates, the men engaged in a feisty 90-minute clash ... With polls showing a tight race, there was little room for error as the candidates sought to shore up their base support while reaching out to the small number of undecided voters. In a sense, the debate was six years in the making as the two men entered the closing stretch of their rematch race. Throughout the debate, Feingold claimed that Johnson 'didn't have a plan' on issues. Johnson fired back, 'Senator Feingold is always going to have a plan to grow government.'" "I will stand with the people of this state," Feingold said. "Senator Johnson stands with the corporations, the billionaires and the multi-millionaires." In rebuttal, Johnson said he "understands what it's like to work": "I'm the working man," he said. "I've worked hard all my life."





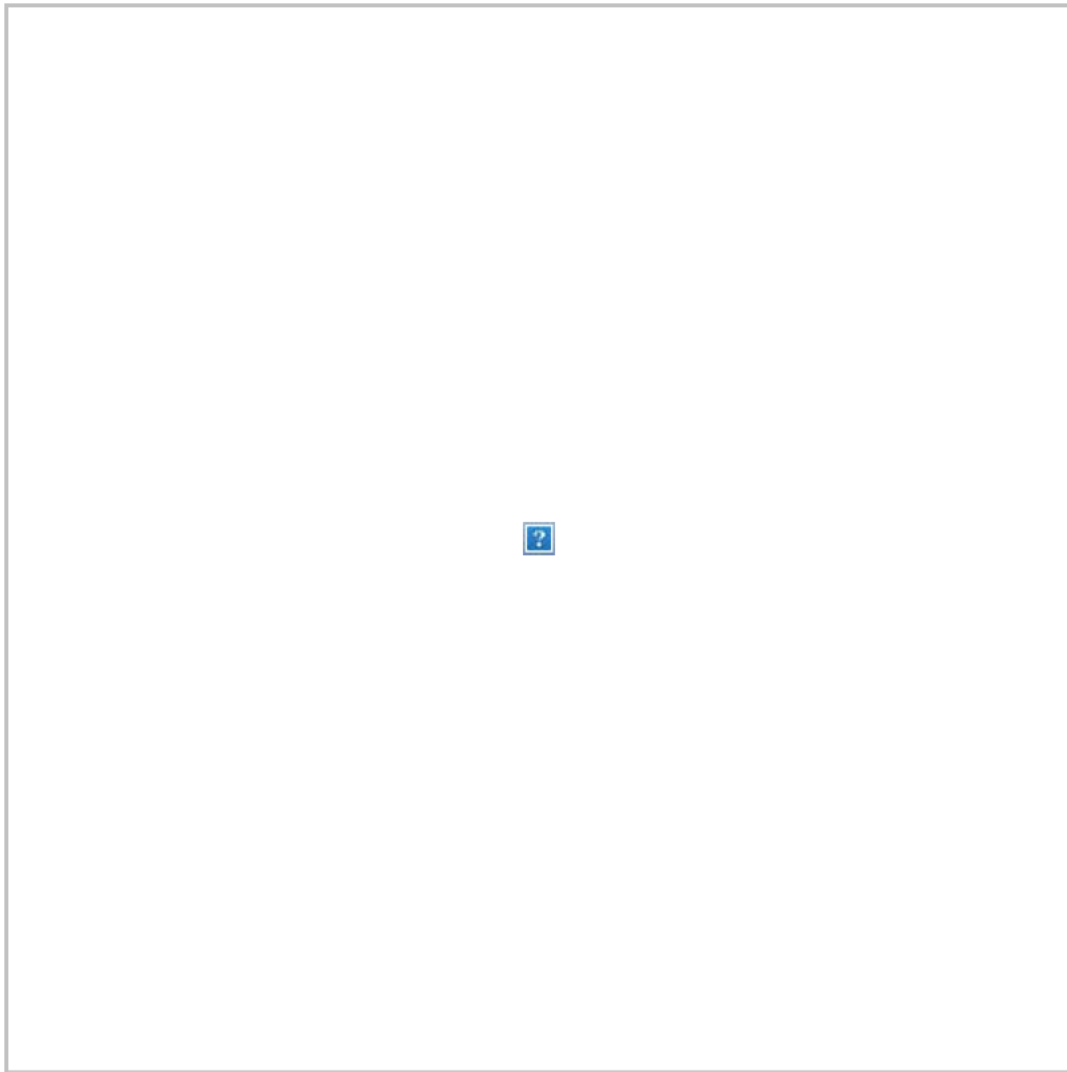
A pan handler sits with a "Give me \$1 or I'm voting for Trump" sign in Manhattan.  
(Carlo Allegri)

### **IT'S SILLY SEASON:**

**-- A Wisconsin woman was arrested after she spread peanut butter on 30 cars that she believed belonged to Trump supporters. But it turns out the cars actually belonged to members of a local conservation club!** "Witnesses said 32-year-old Christina Ferguson stormed into the club meeting on Monday night, holding what a Portage County deputy's report described as a 'family-size jar of low-sodium, creamy natural Jif,'" [HuffPost](#) reports. "Officers

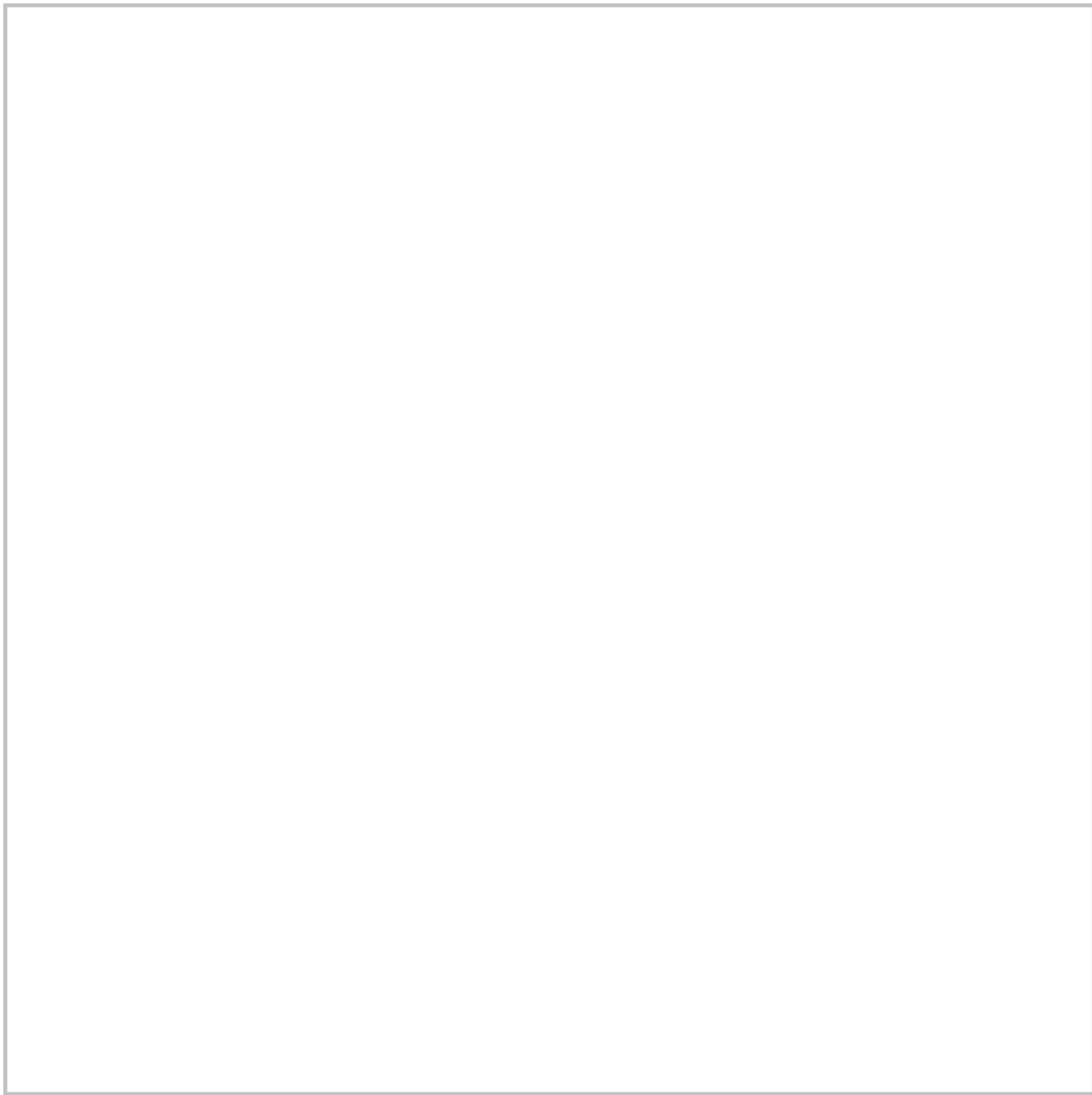
said Ferguson grew emotional as she explained how much she loved Clinton and hated Trump. She then explained why she'd misused peanut butter. 'Peanut butter is better than fire-bombing,' the officer quoted her as saying. She added that Trump wants to fire-bomb everybody in other countries."

**-- A naked, hoofed statue of Hillary prompted a scuffle in Manhattan. An outraged Clinton supporter destroyed it while the artist tried in vain to save it, the [New York Post](#). (Travis Andrews)**



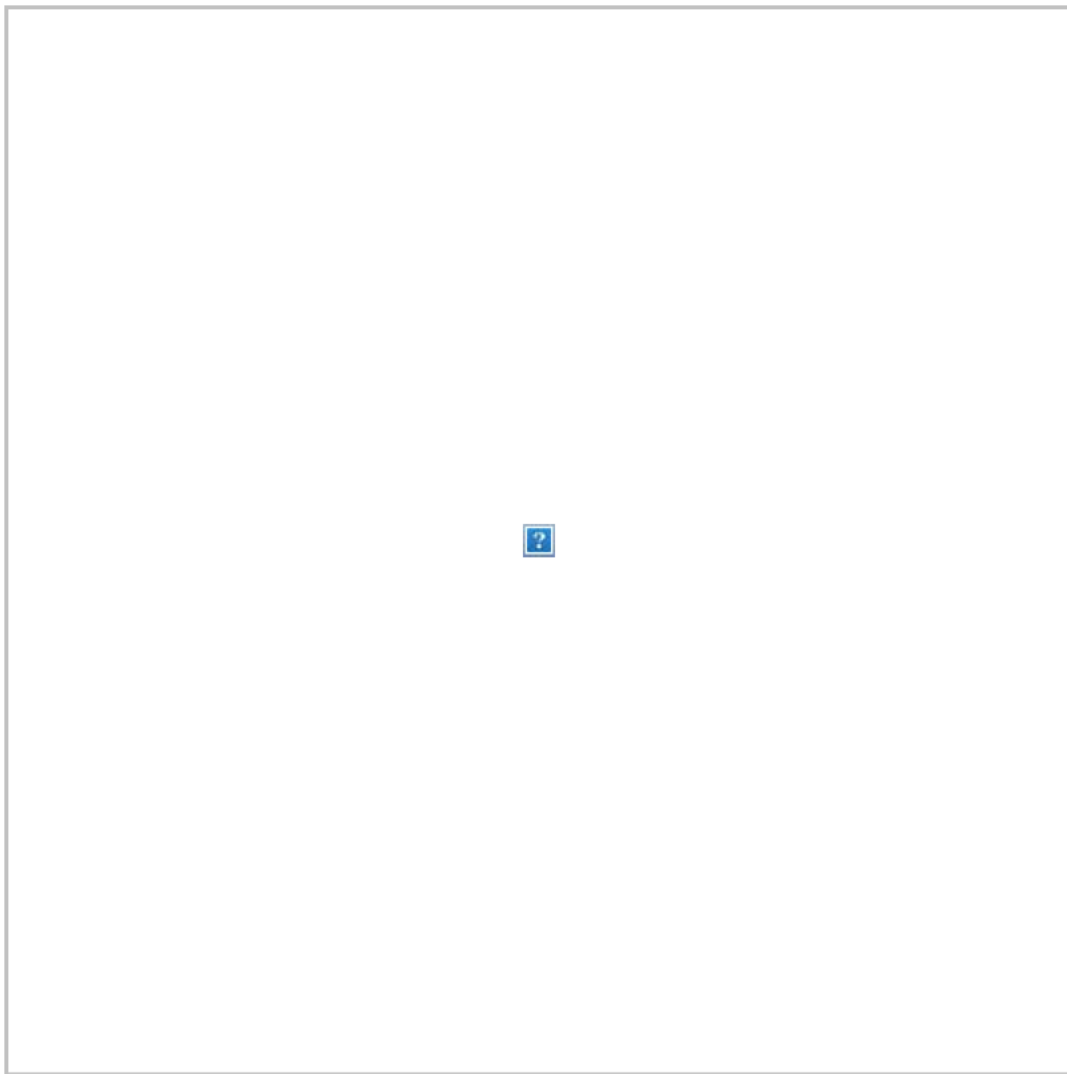
**SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:**

**Over 62 million people on Facebook in the U.S. posted about, shared, liked or commented on content related to Trump over 931 million times in the last month.** The chart below shows the unique number of people on Facebook engaging in the conversation about each candidate – as well as the number of interactions those people generated. Interactions represents the total aggregate number of likes, posts, comments and shares made about a particular candidate within the timeframe. The interactions figure includes not only the activity on the candidate's page, but all of the likes, posts, comments and shares about that candidate from throughout Facebook:

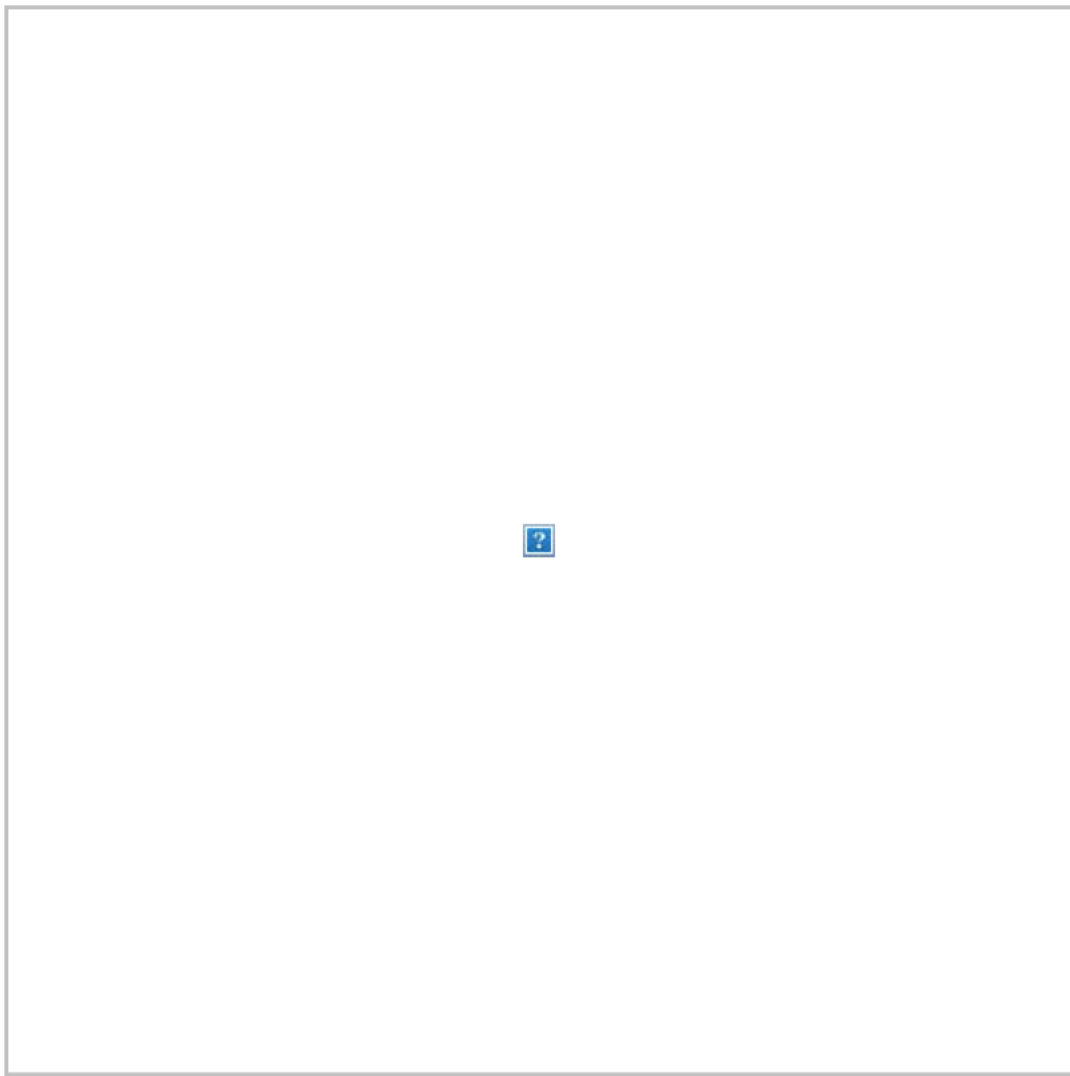


**The top five most talked about political topics on Facebook over the past month:** 1. Crime & Criminal Justice; 2. Religion; 3. Taxes; 4. Government Ethics; 5. Racial Issues.

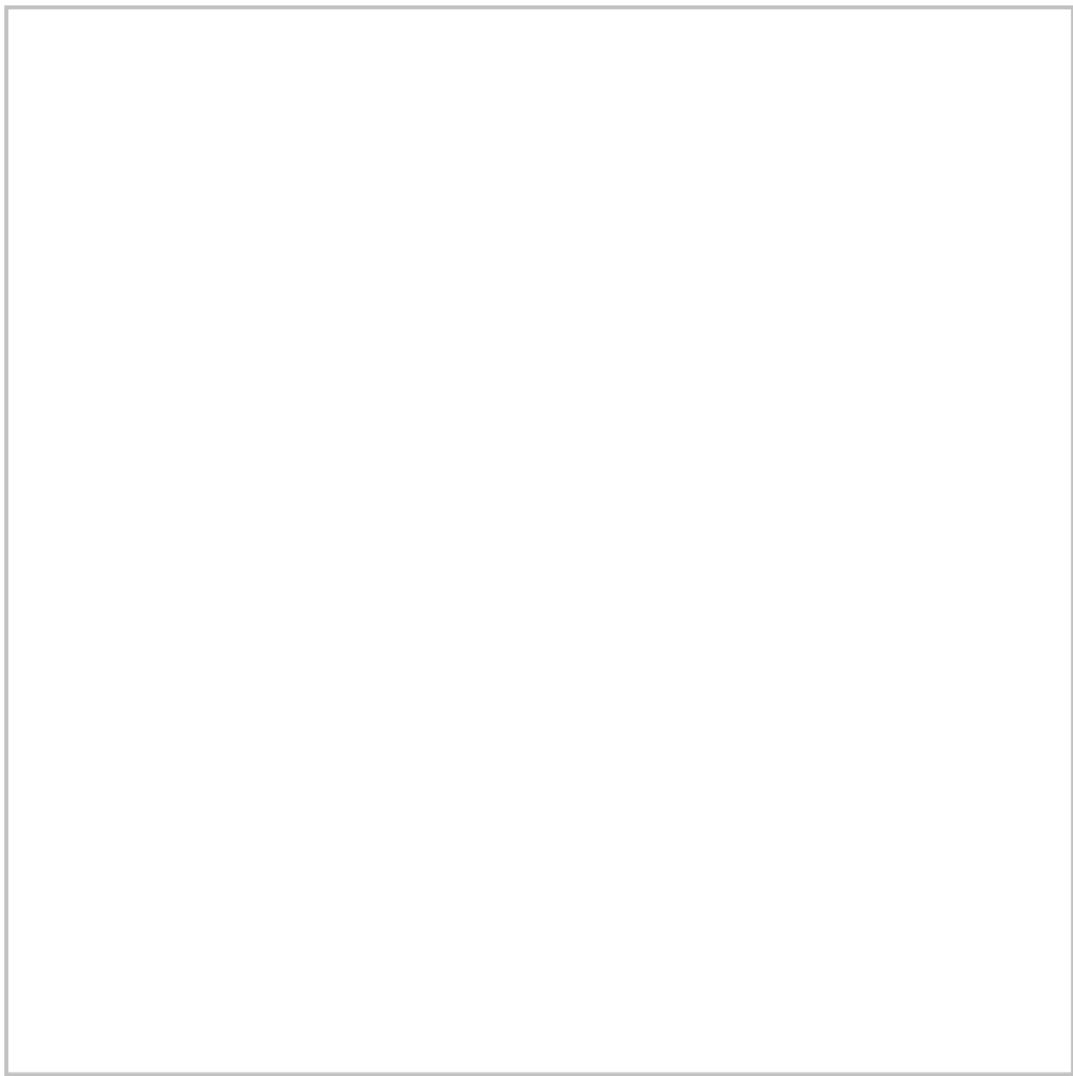
The Onion is on the lookout for late-breaking Trump news:



Coming soon to a Las Vegas billboard:

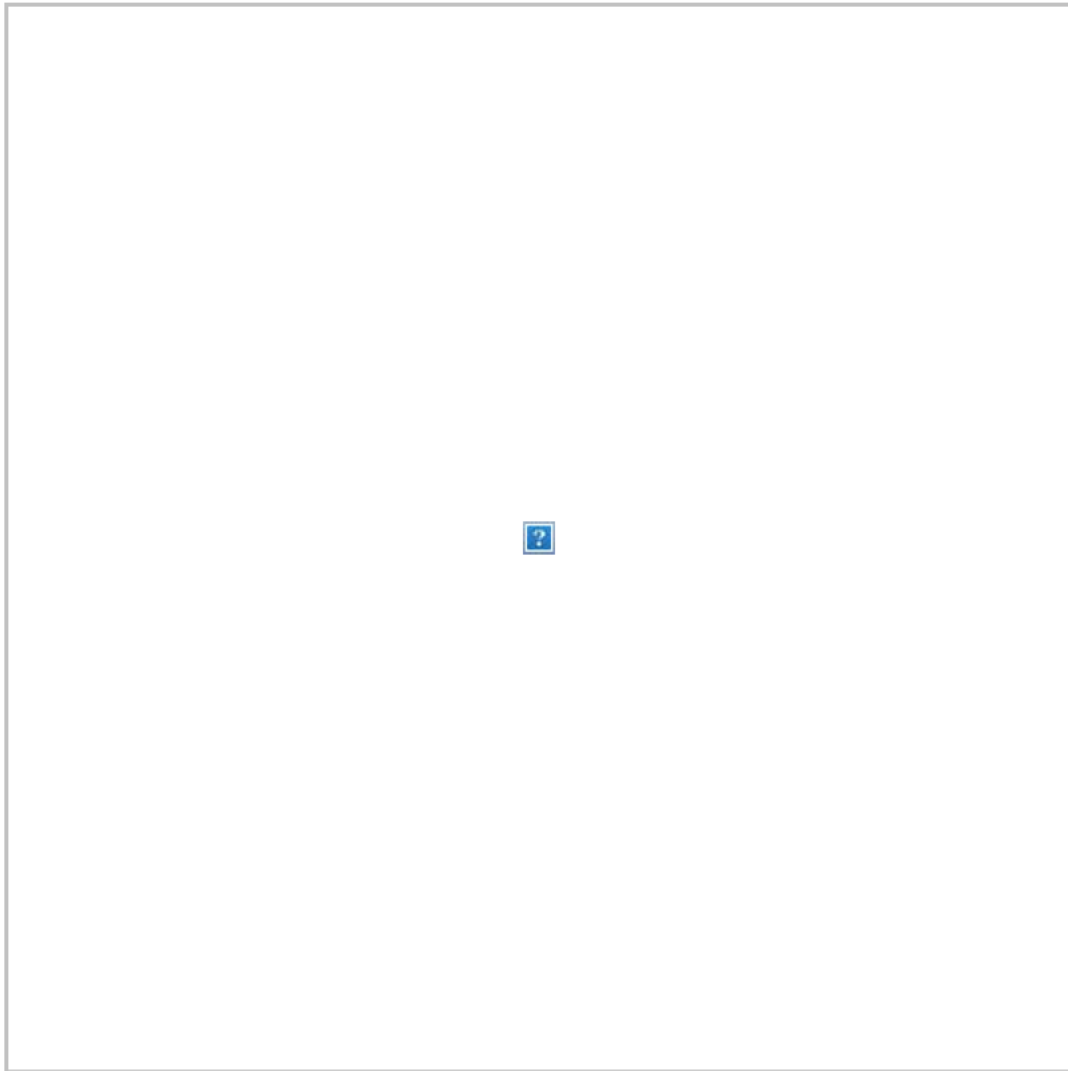


Fox's Sean Hannity and CNN's Brian Stelter went back-and-forth on the issue of voter fraud:



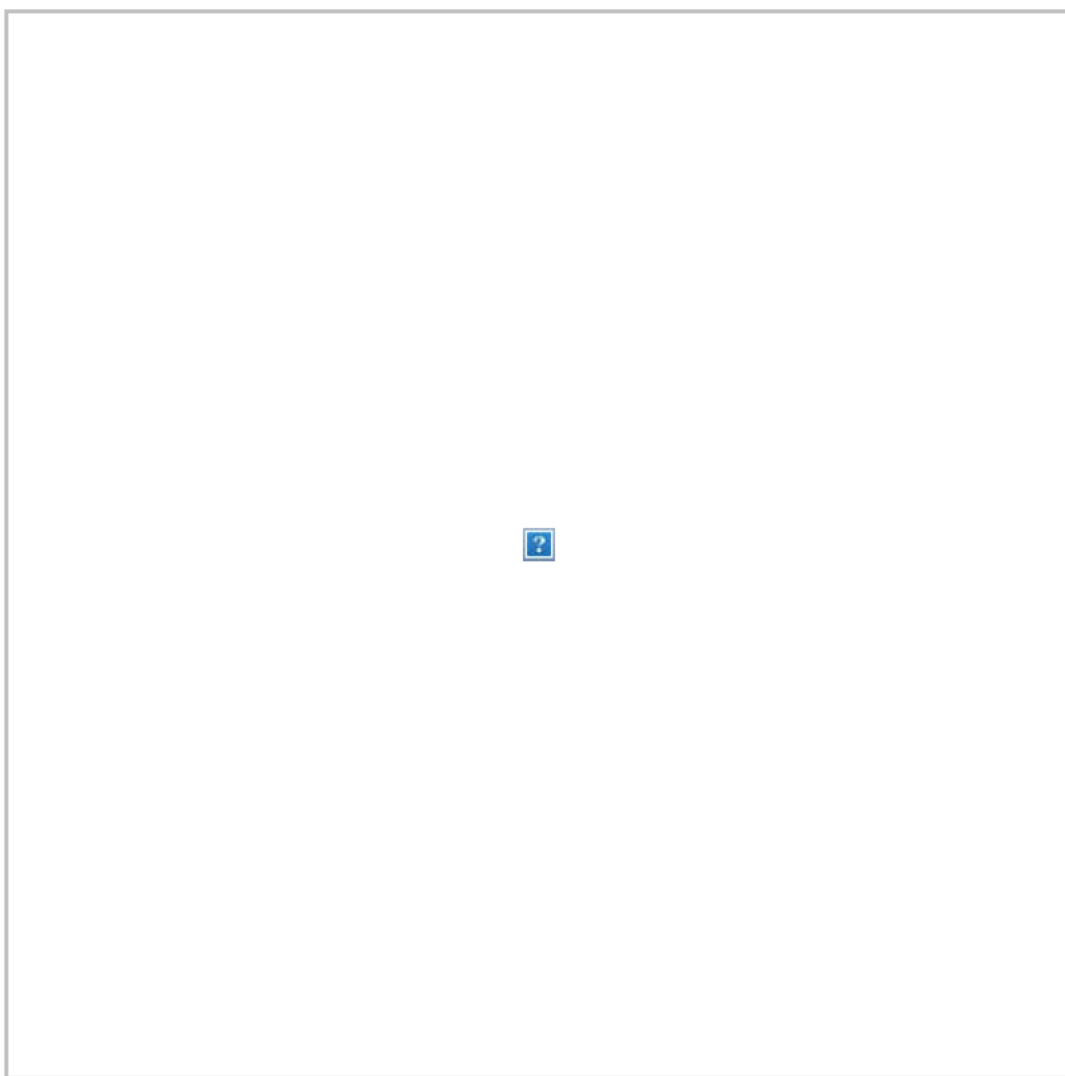
Mike Pence observed some of the damage from the firebombing in North Carolina and called it "an act of political terrorism":

[Vogue endorsed Clinton](#), making the first ever political endorsement in the magazine's history. "We understand that Clinton has not always been a perfect candidate, yet her fierce intelligence and considerable experience are reflected in policies and positions that are clear, sound and hopeful," the magazine's editors write.

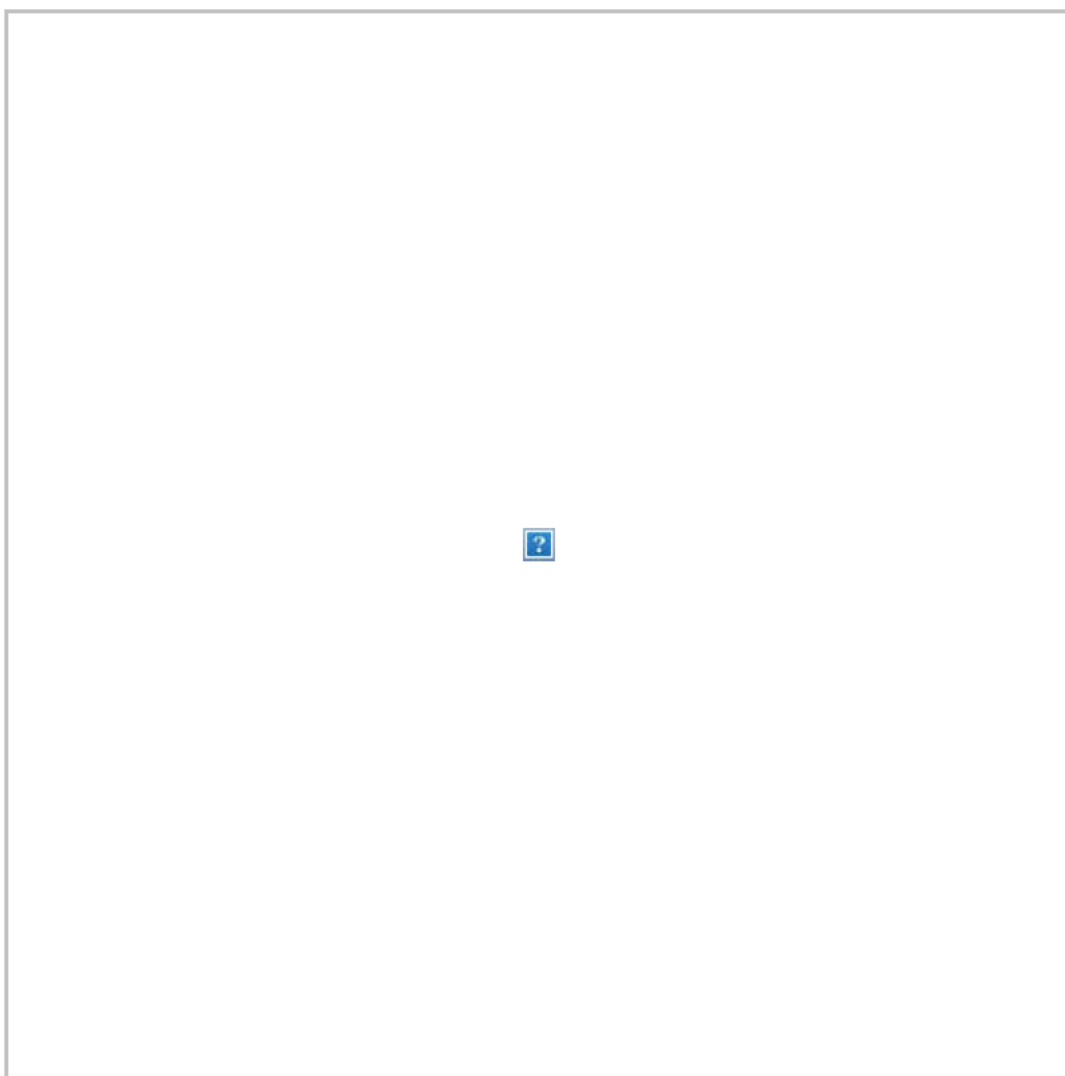


This is pretty funny:

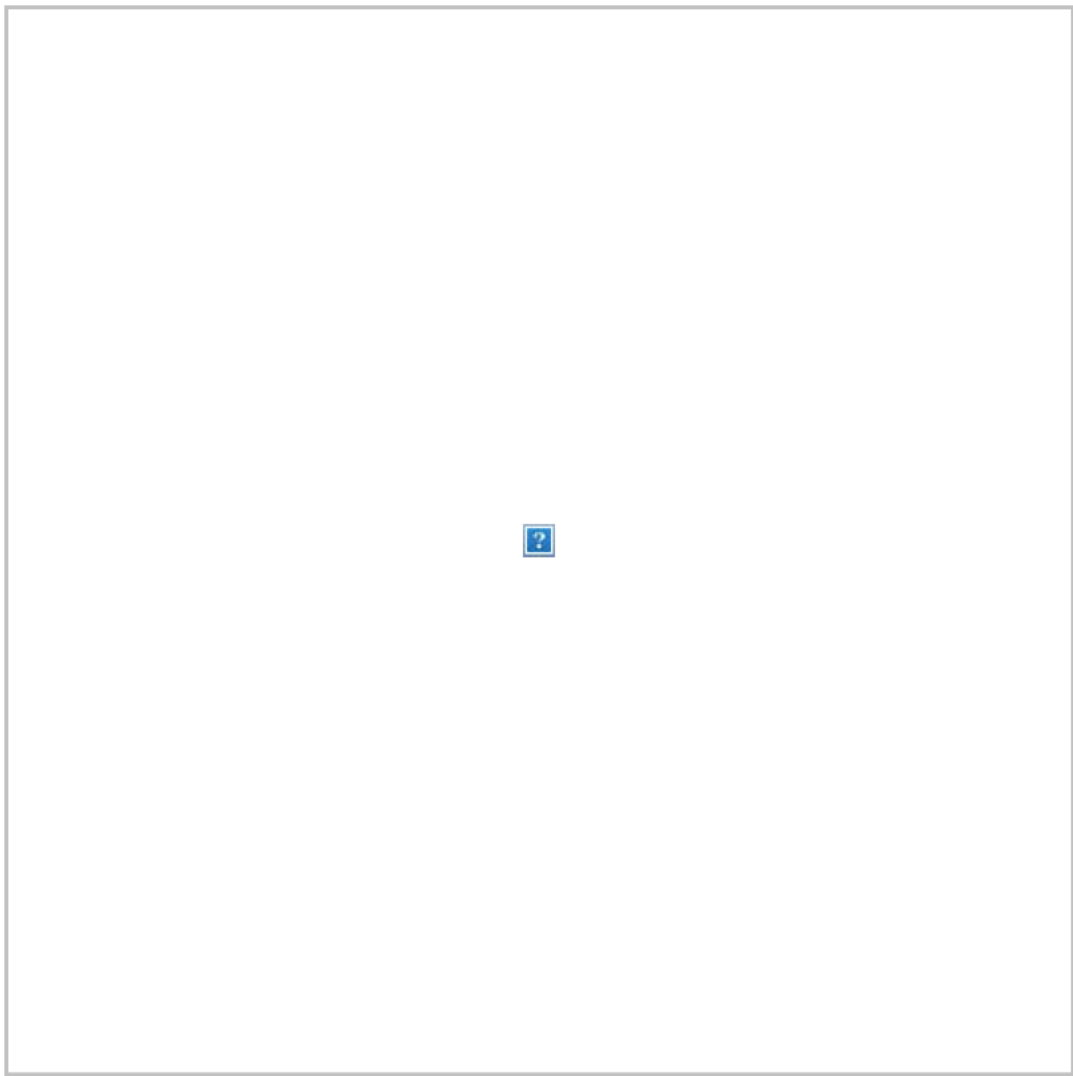




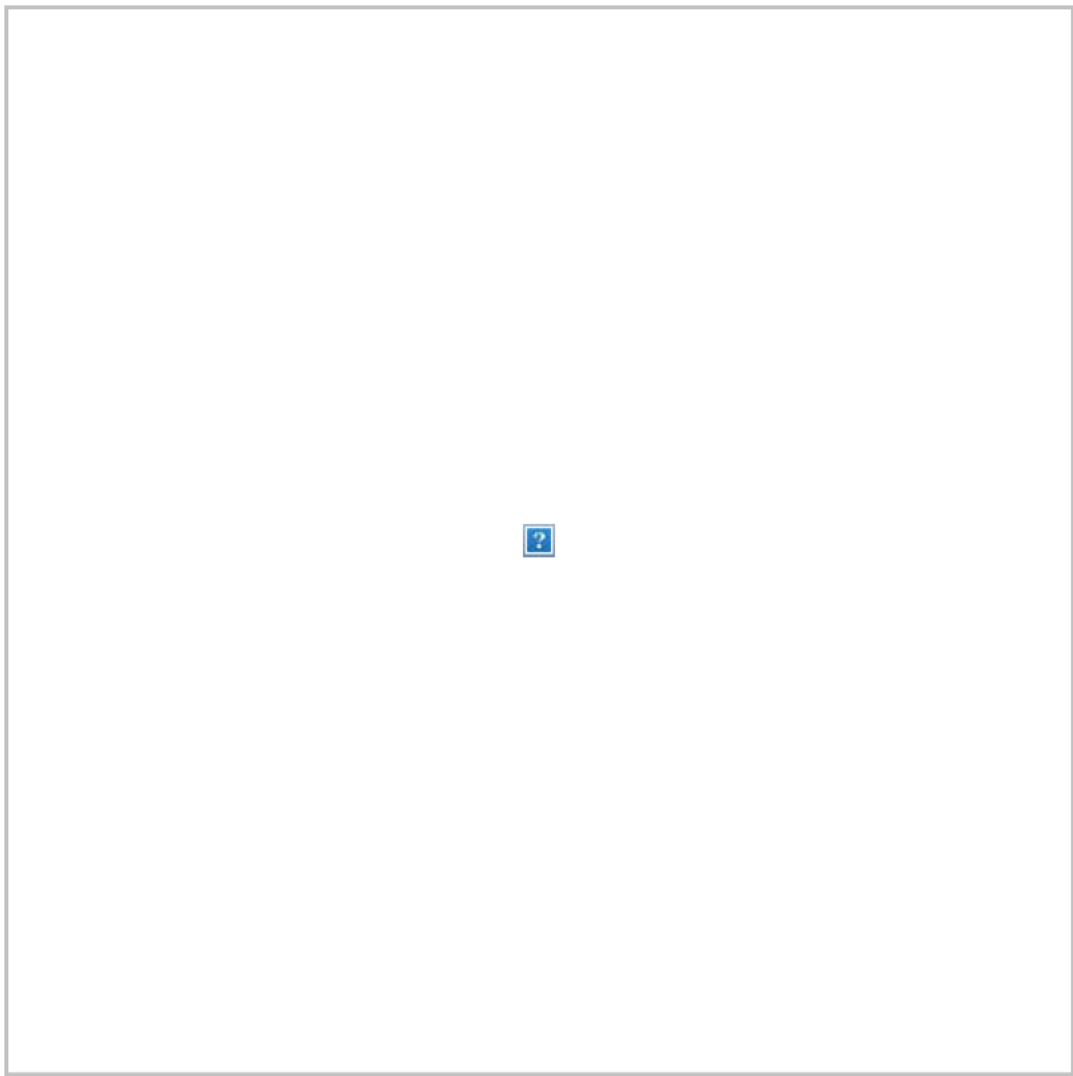
Wyclef Jean posted this photo:



Debra Messing got a thank-you note from the White House:



Jason Chaffetz took this selfie while camping:



Kevin McCarthy went to a Dodgers game:



### GOOD READS FROM ELSEWHERE:

-- New York Times, "[David Letterman \(and His Beard\) Shop at Target These Days](#)," by Dave Itzkoff: "Why does David Letterman have a beard? To put it more precisely: Why did Mr. Letterman, after stepping down from CBS's 'Late Show' and a 33-year career ... spend the past year and a half cultivating a fleecy and prodigious mound of facial hair ...? Did he grow these imposing bristles to keep the world at bay while he withdrew into retirement?" Was it his way of saying he was no longer the man who had spent 6,000 evenings reading Top 10 lists and interviewing 20,000 guests? **Actually, he**

**explained, 'I just got tired of shaving every day, but then it became something else, and I'm not quite sure what it became.'**

In his dry Midwestern delivery, tinged with a new and unaccustomed element of wistfulness, he said: 'The beard is a good reminder to me that that was a different life. I'm hopeful that I will either find something else, or something else will be presented to me.' ... With years of vitality left, he has been trying, since his 'Late Show' farewell in May 2015, to figure out what his next step should be."

**-- National security reporter Walter Pincus prepared a list of pressing foreign policy questions that Trump and Clinton should answer in tonight's debate.** Some highlights from [his column for the Cipher Brief](#):

- **For Trump, on Russia:** "At the last debate, despite your being briefed by intelligence analysts and after Director of National Intelligence James Clapper publicly identified Russia as doing the hacking, you said [Clinton] 'doesn't know if it's the Russians doing the hacking,' and then added, 'Maybe there is no hacking.' Do you not trust the U.S. intelligence community determination ... that the Russians are behind the hacking of the [DNC] emails?"
- **For Clinton, on Syria:** "You are advocating a no-fly zone and safe zones. Define just what would be involved on the part of the U.S. and its allies – including forces in the air and on the ground [for protection] ... Would you seek congressional authorization to use American armed forces which will have to strike at Syrian government targets, something normally considered an act of war?"

**For Trump, on Syria:** On Oct. 9, you said “Syria is no longer Syria. Syria is Russia and it’s Iran.’ You also said Assad forces and the Russians in Syria were fighting ISIS, and implied if you were president you would no longer support any anti-Assad forces. Instead you would join with the Russians, Iranians and Assad regime in fighting ISIS. Would that be your policy for Syria? And if the Assad regime, supported by Russian and Iranian military forces, attempted to regain control over all of Syria, would you stand aside and let that happen?”

## HOT ON THE LEFT

## HOT ON THE RIGHT

**Two little known but influential Democratic operatives lost their jobs after edited footage from a video sting by conservative activist James O’Keefe found them entertaining “dark notions” about how to win elections. From Dave Weigel: “Footage from the video shows [Scott] Foval, a Wisconsin-based politico with a long resume, bragging about a litany of political dirty tricks. In the first video, he boasts of ‘conflict engagement in the lines of Trump rallies,’ takes credit for the violence that canceled a Trump rally at the University of Illinois in Chicago (and) **admits****

**he's paid 'mentally ill' people to start trouble."**

Robert Creamer also announced he is stepping down from the work he was doing for a progressive consulting group following release of the tape. On Tuesday night's episode of "Hannity," two campaign representatives said that the tapes "validated everything" Trump had said about the possible threat of the election being stolen.

#### **DAYBOOK:**

**On the campaign trail:** Trump and Clinton debate in Las Vegas. Tim Kaine speaks in Upper Arlington and Springfield, Ohio and Asheville, N.C.; Bernie Sanders rallies Clinton supporters in Reno, Nev. Pence speaks in Durango, Colo.

**At the White House:** Obama has no public events scheduled. Biden speaks about the Cancer Moonshot at the SAP Global CEO Summit in New York. Later, he travels to Boston to speak again about the project at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute.

**On Capitol Hill:** The Senate and House are out.

#### **QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

Obama mocked Trump for griping about a rigged election: "You start whining before the game's even over?"





## NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:

-- “A solidly summerlike day, with partly to mostly sunny skies and noticeable humidity,” the [Capital Weather Gang forecasts](#).

“Highs head for the mid-80s, with light winds from the west-southwest around 5-10 mph. The record highs to beat for the day? — 88 at DCA, 83 at Dulles, and 82 at BWI.”

-- The Wizards [beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 96-91](#).

-- The [Capitals beat the Colorado Avalanche 3-0](#)

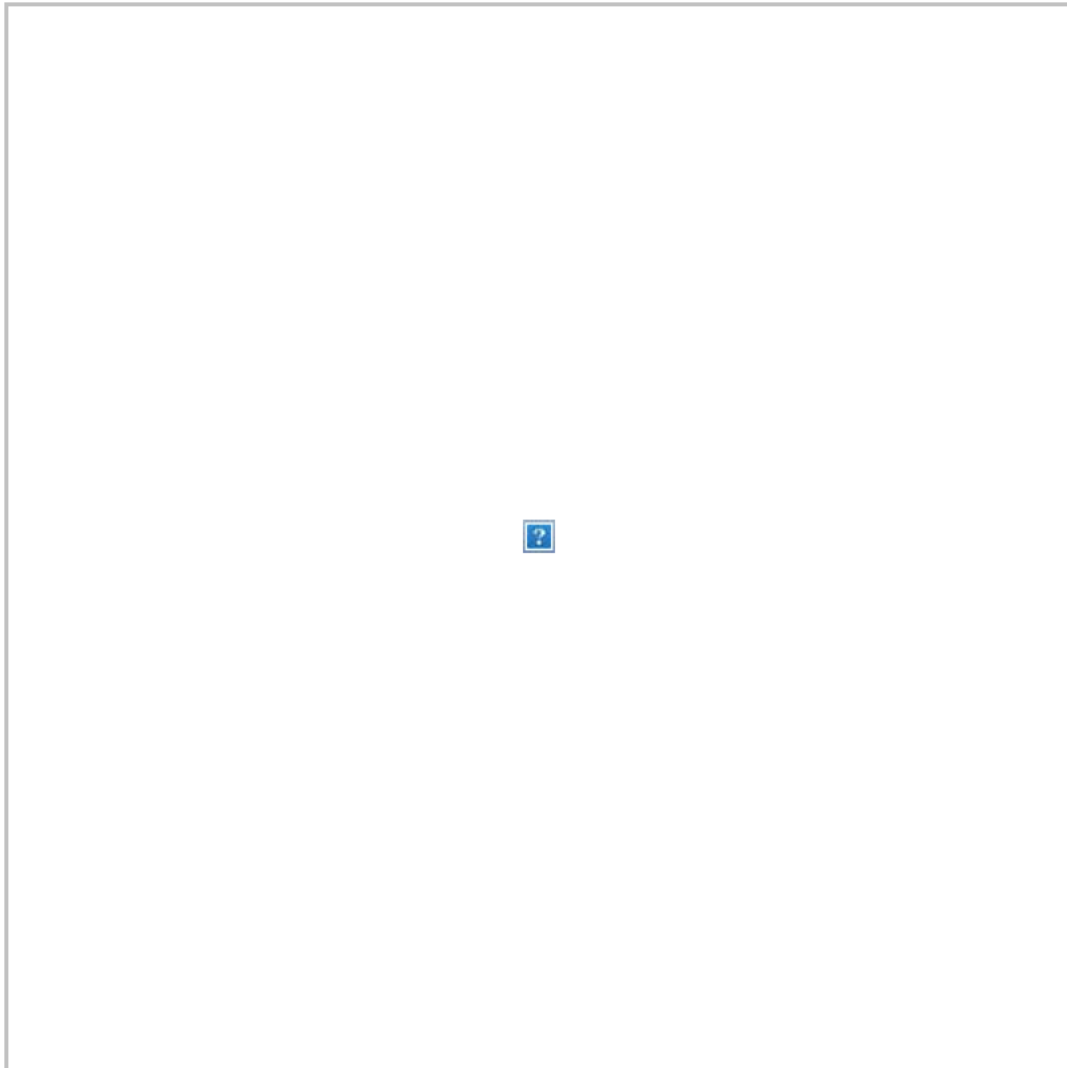
-- A Richmond federal appeals court agreed to postpone oral arguments in a case over the Washington Redskins’ trademark registration, further delaying a long-running case that pits the NFL team against the U.S. patent office and Native Americans groups find the team’s name insulting. ([Ian Shapira](#))

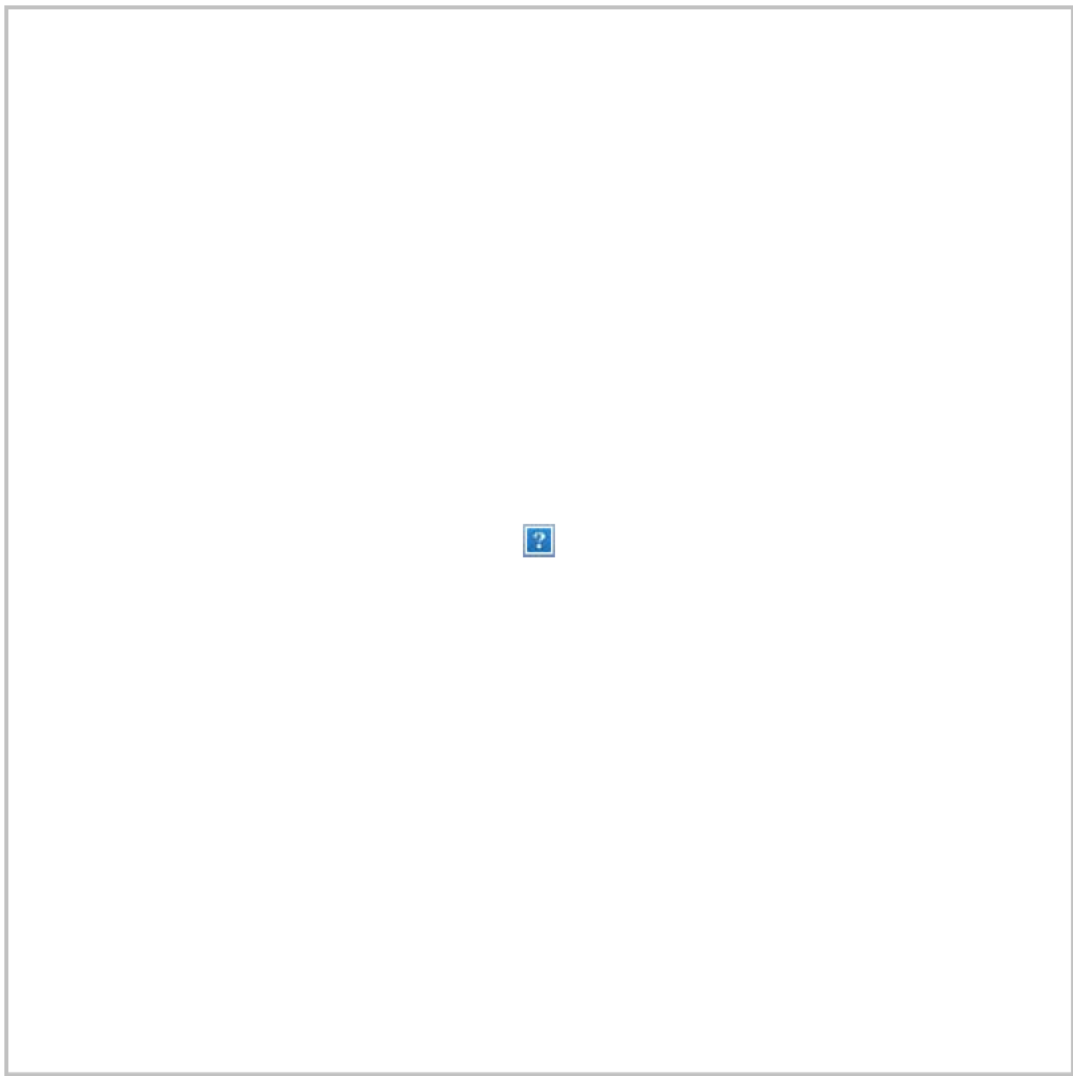
-- A high school senior was fatally stabbed on a D.C. Metrobus Tuesday evening, reportedly following a long-running dispute with another young woman over a cell phone. Police said the suspect has been taken into custody and charged. ([Peter Hermann](#))

-- Marriott International announced plans to relocate its headquarters to downtown Bethesda, deciding to remain in Montgomery County after getting commitment on a \$62 million publicly funded initiative. ([Jonathan O'Connell](#))

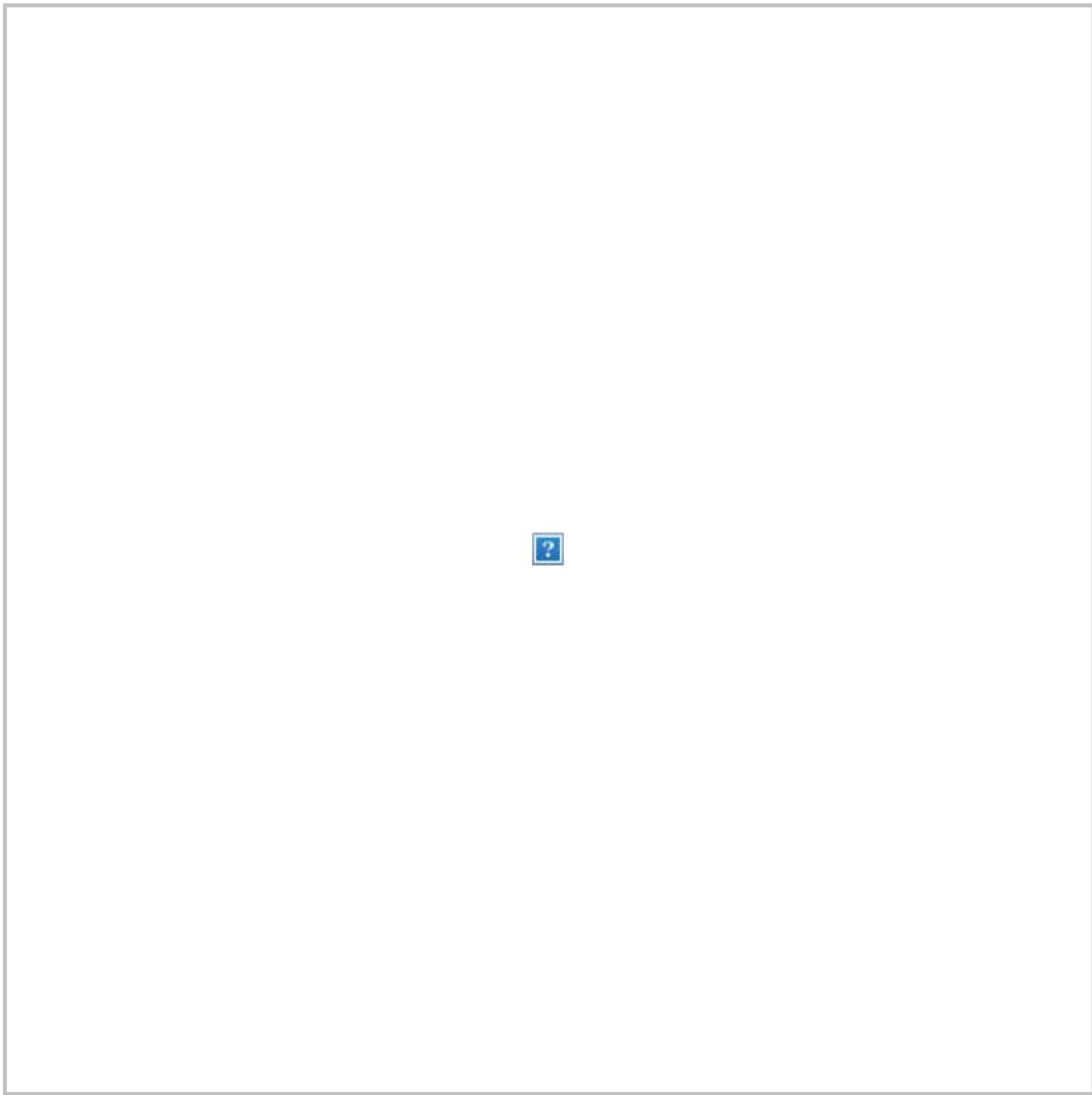
## VIDEOS OF THE DAY:

Tony Award-winning actress Laura Benanti [returned to “The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” last night](#) to reprise her [spot-on parody](#) of Melania Trump — this time with some uncomfortable Billy Bush references:



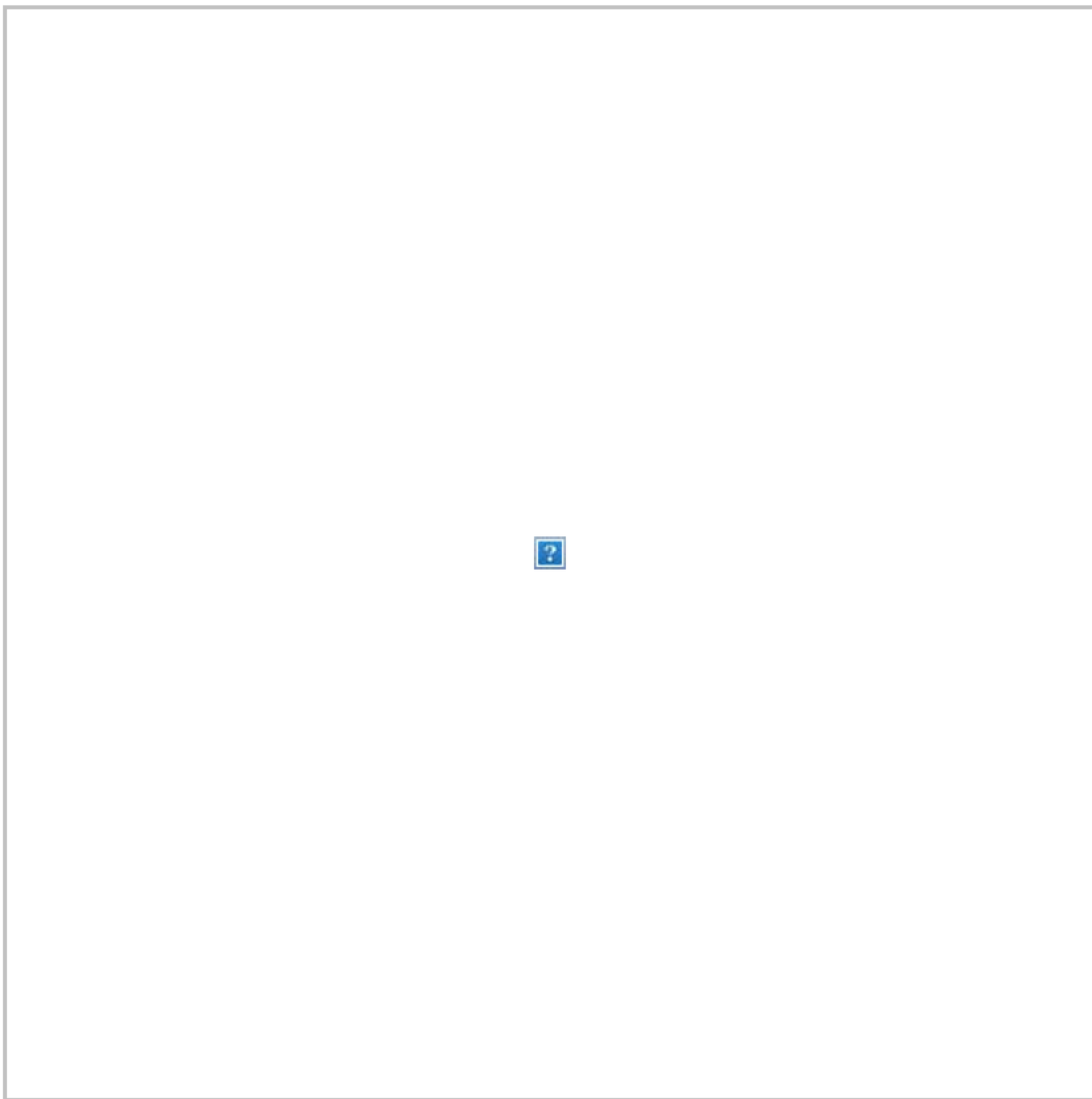


Watch as celebrities arrive at the White House for the Italian state dinner:



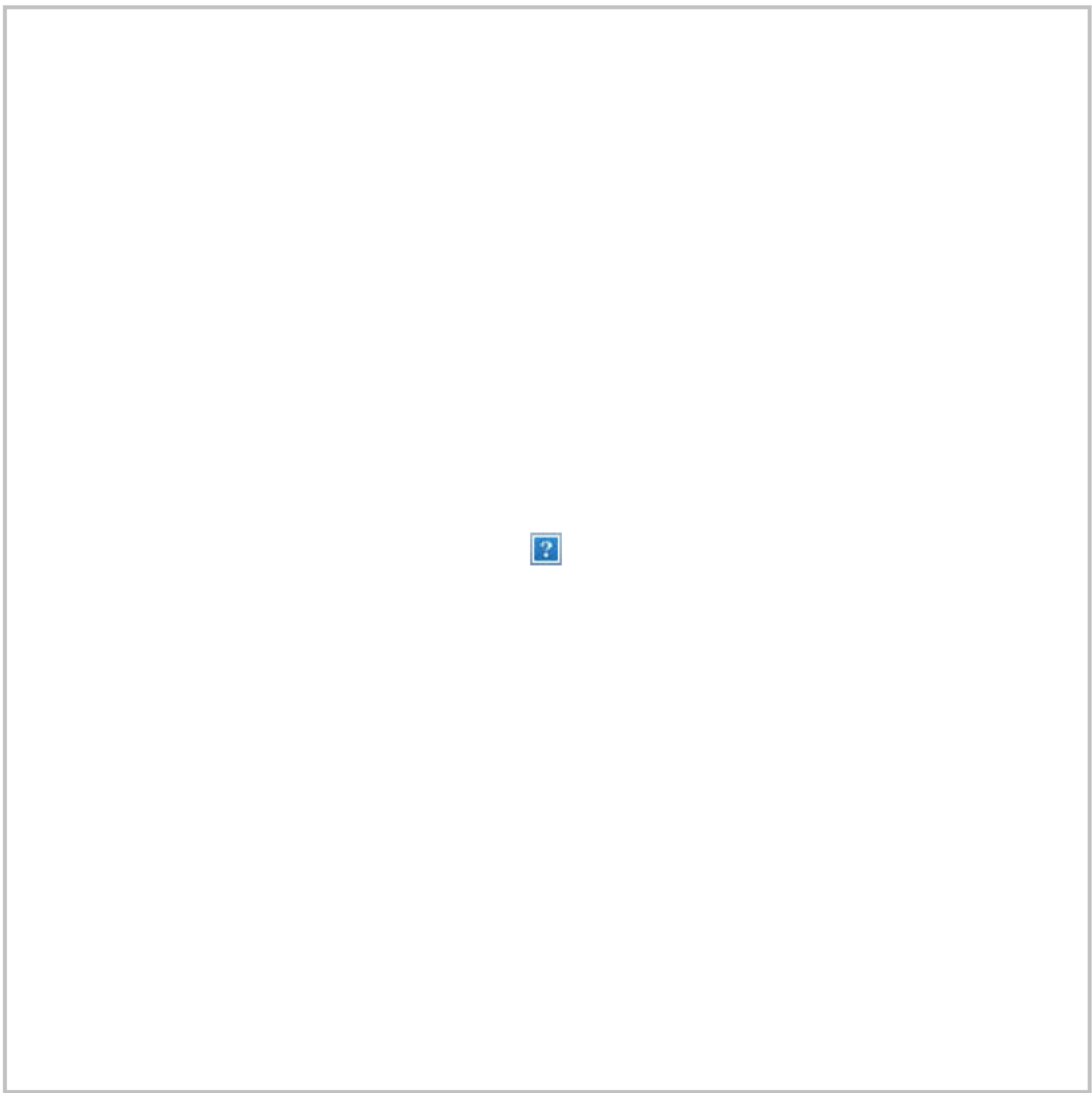
Celebrities arrive for Italian state dinner

"Dreamer" Juan Salazar, who came to the U.S. when he was seven, contemplates what's at stake in this election for him and his undocumented family members:



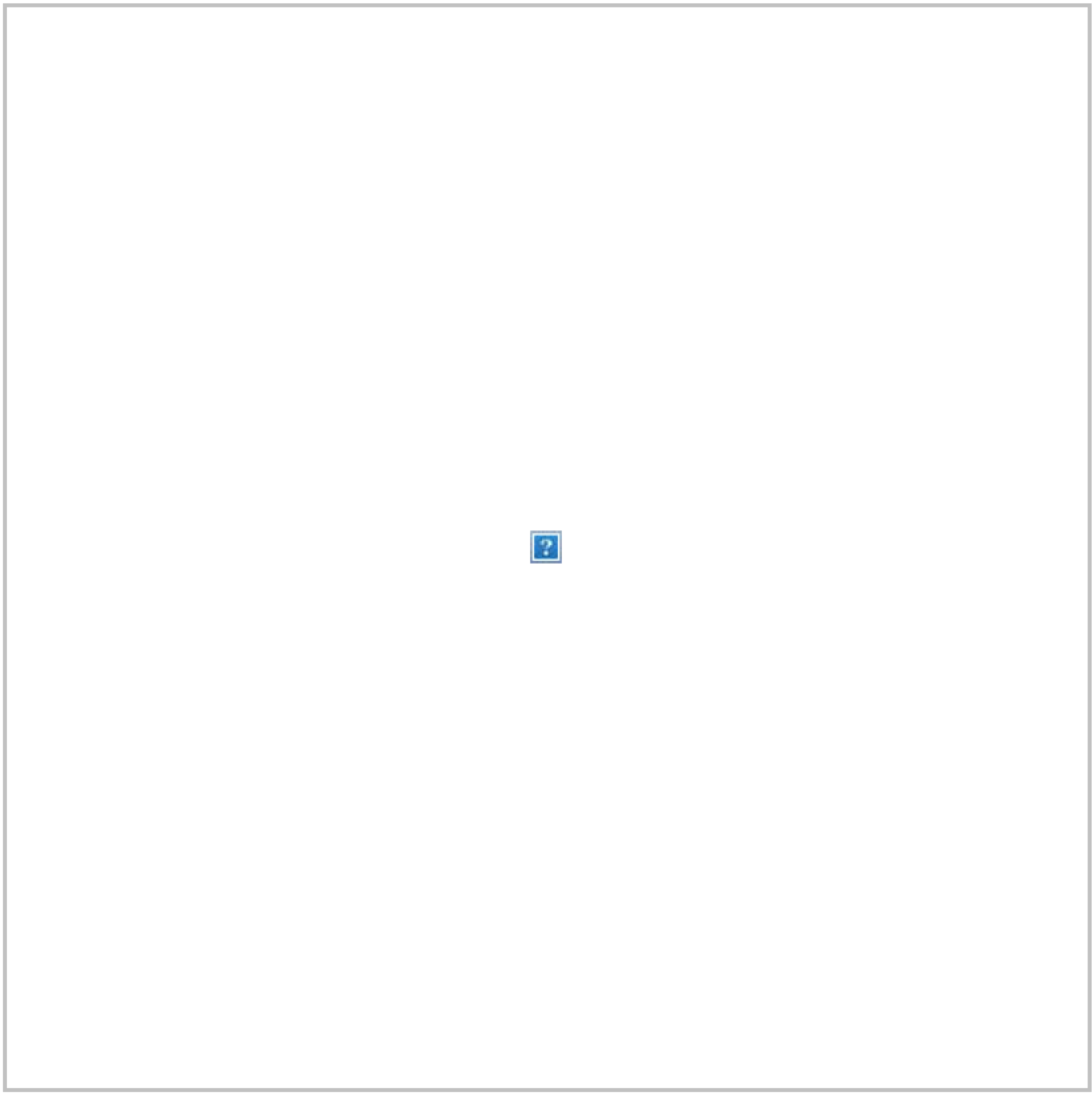
A family in fear: 'Us being separated...is just devastating'

Judy Shepard, whose son Matthew Shepard was murdered in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1998, because he was gay, cut a 1-minute spot for the Clinton Super PAC Priorities USA. "I know what can happen as the result of hate," she says to camera. "So when I see the hate that Donald Trump has brought to his campaign for president, it terrifies me. ... Words have an influence, violence causes pain, hate can rip us apart. I know what can happen as the result of hate, and Donald Trump should never be our president."



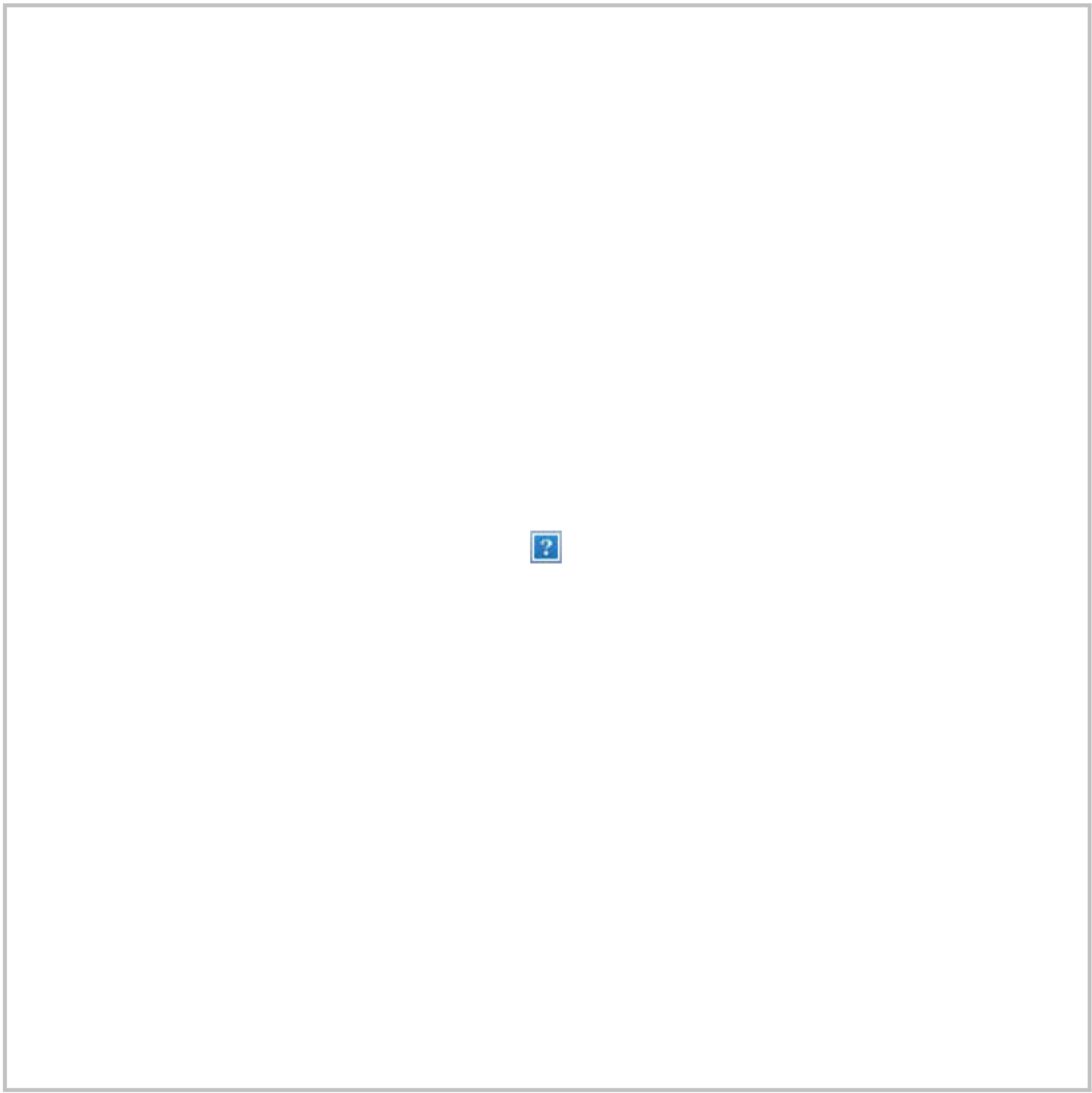
Hate

Bloomberg made an Ocean's Eleven-style explainer about whether the election is rigged:



Ocean's Election: Rigging the System, Vegas-Style

Kathy Griffin taped a video against Trump (warning: profanity):



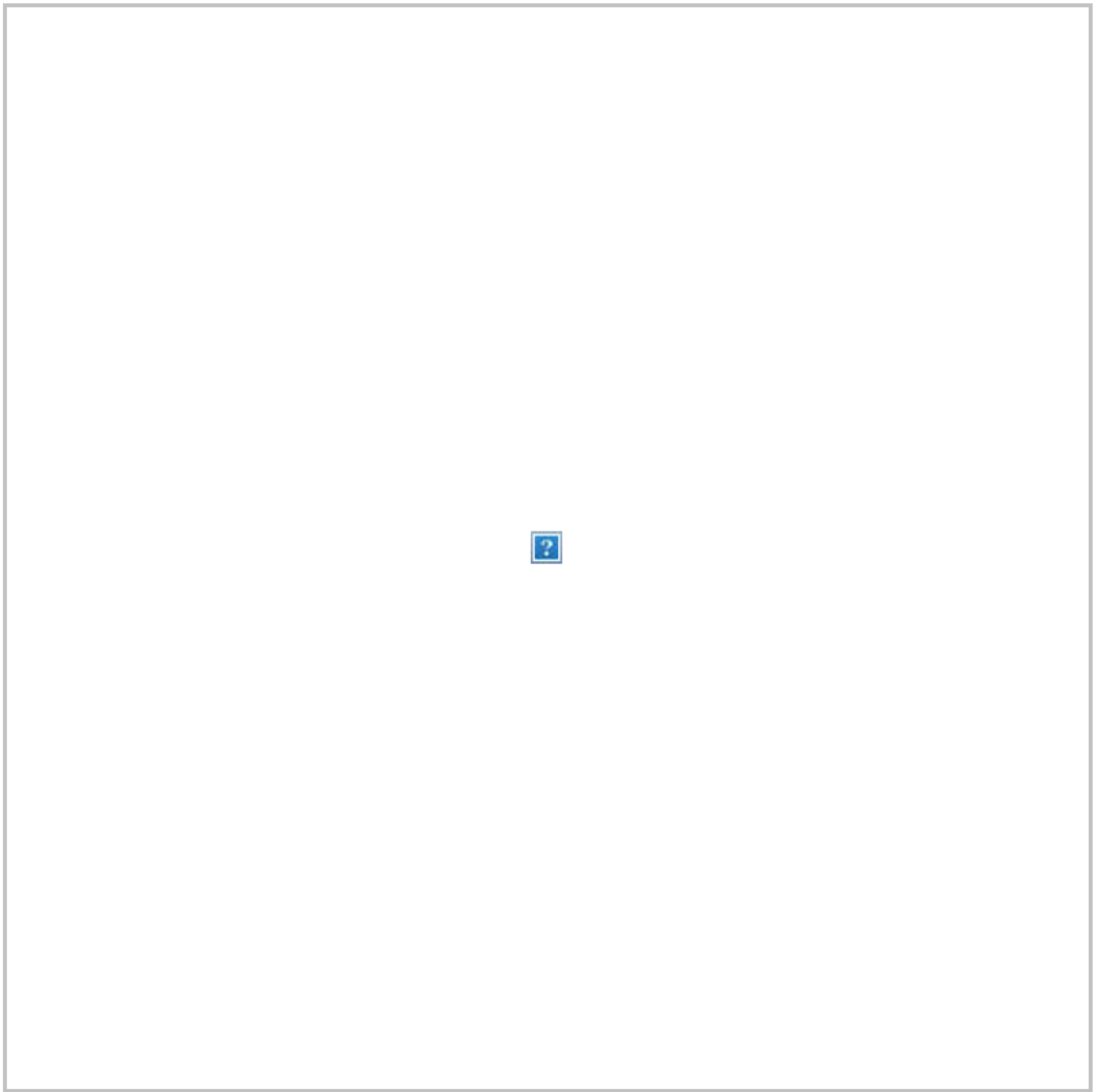
Mirrors | Kathy Griffin | Hillary Clinton

Viceland also used adult language in this Instagram video against Trump:



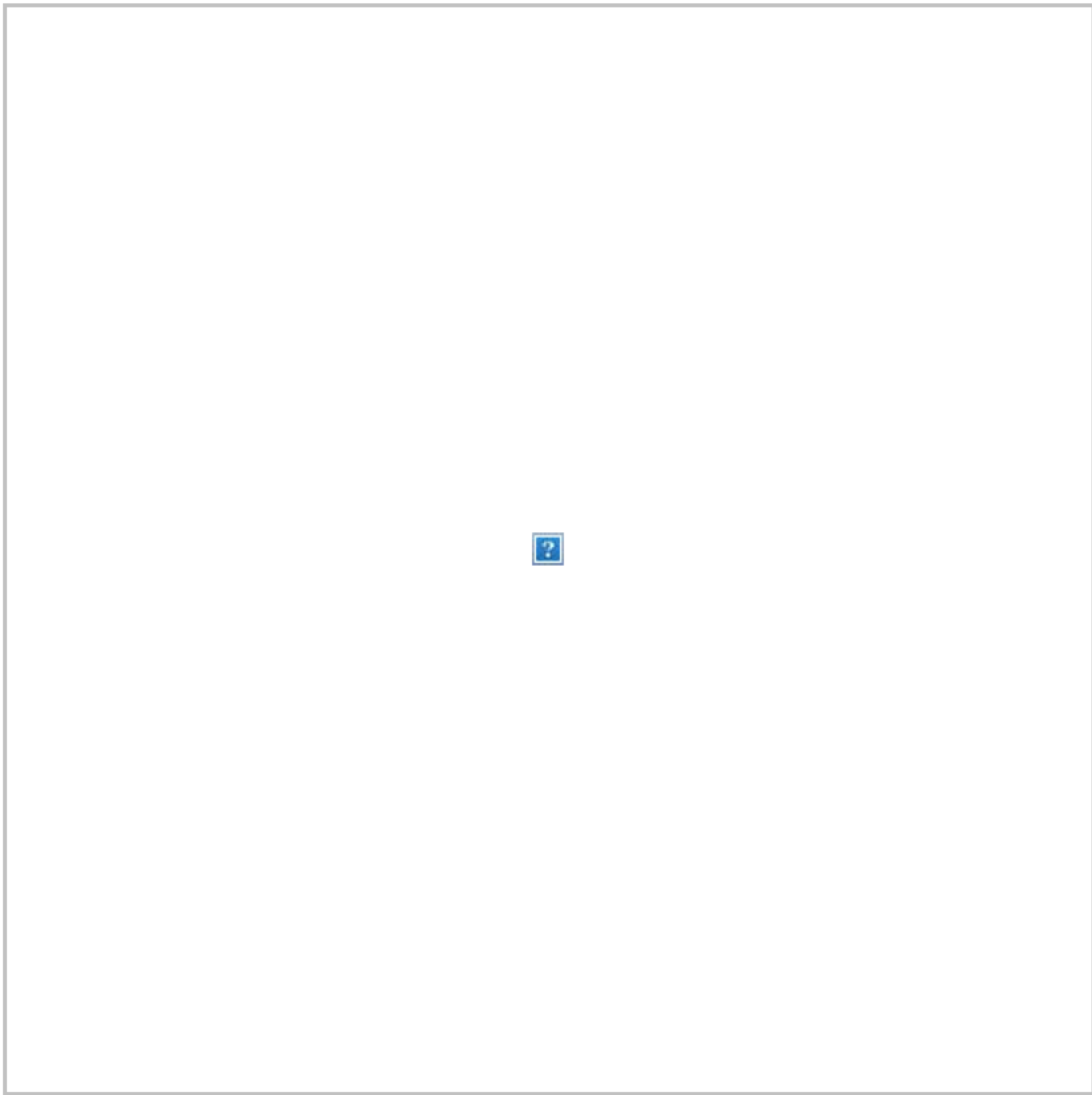


Compare some of what Clinton says in her stump speech to what she told Goldman Sachs bankers behind closed doors:



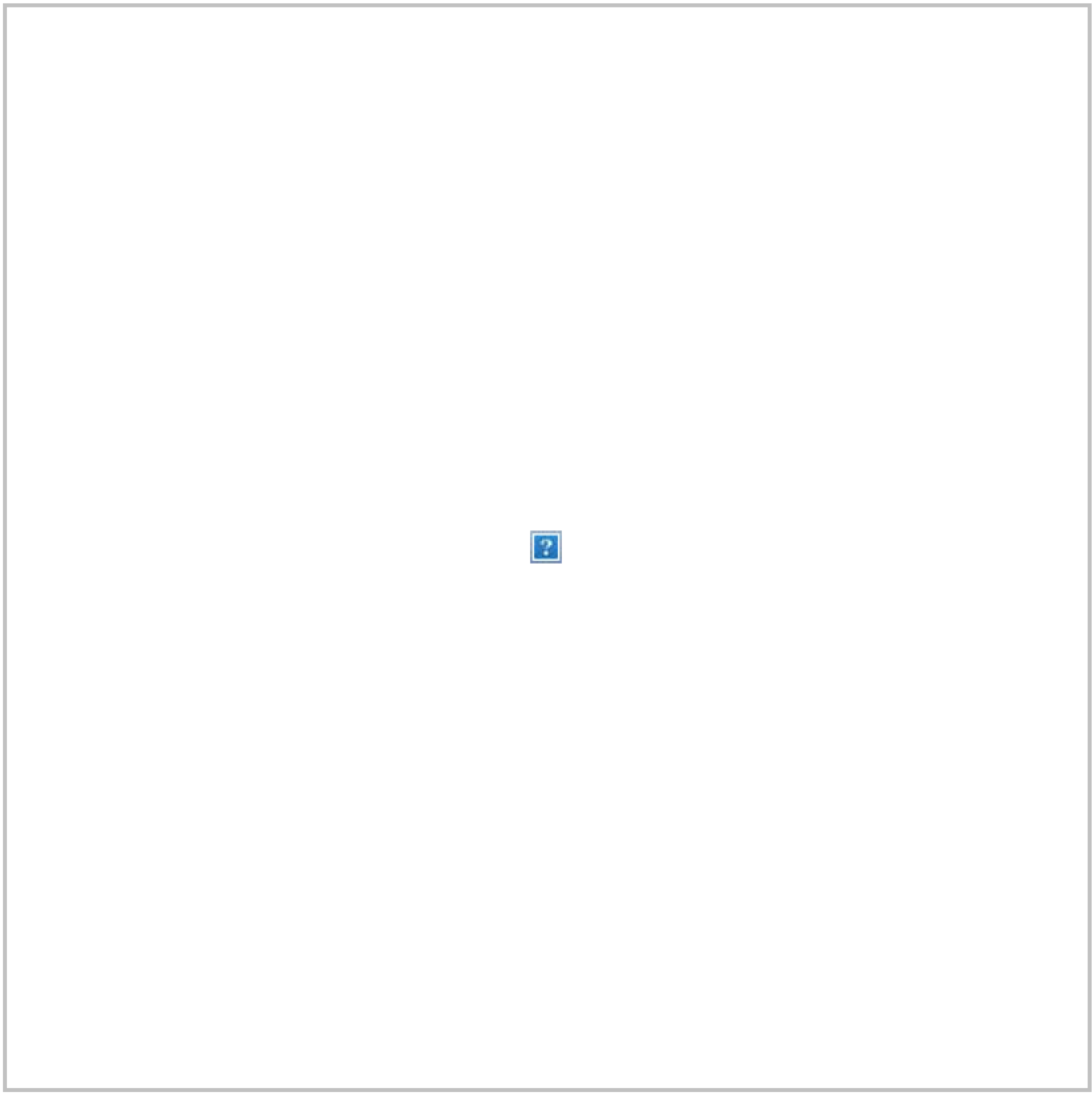
How some of Clinton's private speeches compare to her public stances

Watch Obama speak about Trump's "whining":



President Obama: "I'd invite Mr. Trump to stop whining..." (C-SPAN)

Finally, in this video, Canadians tell Americans why our country is already great:



Canadians 'tell America it's great'

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**From:**  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** be a focus of tonight's presidential debate  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 9:43:05 AM

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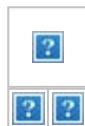
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# The Daily 202



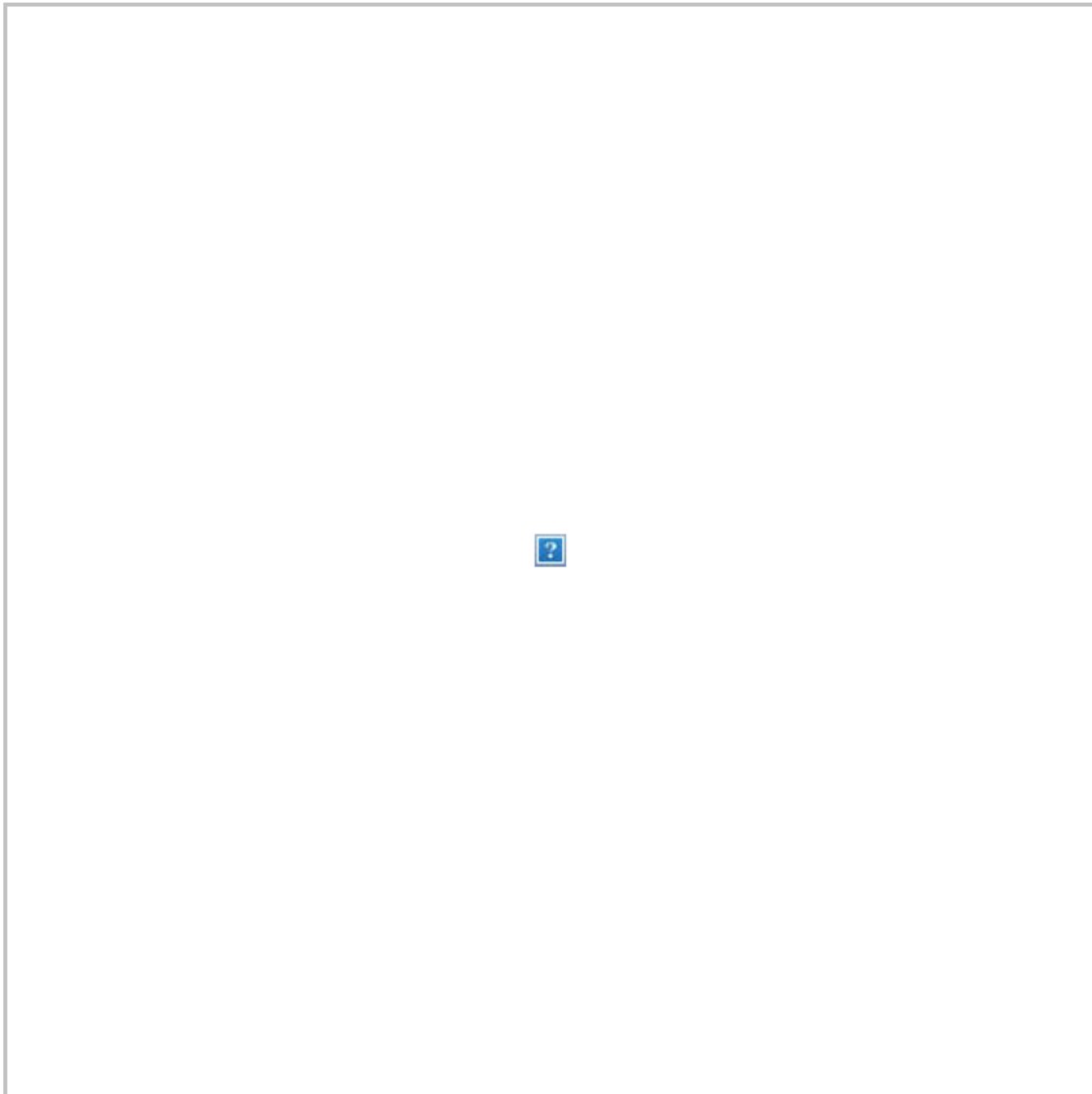
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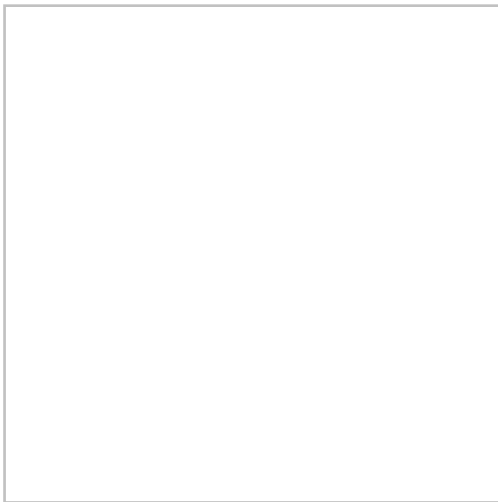


**The Supreme Court will be a focus of tonight's**

## presidential debate



Donald Trump's plane passes Hillary Clinton's plane at McCarran International Airport yesterday. The candidates have come to Las Vegas for their third and final debate. (Brendan Smialowski/AFP/Getty Images)



*With Breanne Deppisch*

**THE BIG IDEA: The Supreme Court is one of six main topics that will be covered during tonight's final debate at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.** The late Antonin Scalia's seat continues to sit empty. An evenly-divided court has begun its new term under a cloud of uncertainty. Assuming Hillary Clinton wins, it remains [unclear](#) whether Republicans will try to confirm Merrick Garland during the lame-duck session to prevent her from putting up someone who is younger and more liberal next year.

**The debate took on new significance this week when John McCain [boasted](#) during a radio interview that Republicans would automatically oppose whomever Clinton nominates.** "I promise you that we will be united against any Supreme Court nominee that Hillary Clinton, if she were president, would put up," the Arizona senator said. "I promise you!"

Attacked by his Democratic challenger, McCain's spokeswoman released a statement walking back his comment. The senator will "thoroughly examine the record of any Supreme Court nominee put

before the Senate,” she said. McCain then [awkwardly avoided](#) a local TV reporter who tried to follow up.

**Republicans, who have struggled to convince voters that they are capable of governing, talked a big game in years past about the need to be more than just “the party of no.” That messaging is gone now. The prospect of four more years in the wilderness suggests that they will move back toward unapologetic obstruction.**

Right now, however, they are in damage control mode. **Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, who is up for reelection in Iowa, promised yesterday to not automatically “stonewall” any Clinton pick.** “If that new president happens to be Hillary, we can’t just simply stonewall,” Grassley said on [a conference call with local press](#).

This is a very delicate balancing act. Vulnerable Republican incumbents are trying to convince people who are reluctantly voting for Clinton to support them by promising that they’ll be a check and balance on the excesses of the Clinton presidency. **One man’s “check and balance,” however, is another man’s “obstruction.” Regardless of how you play it, the bottom line is that Republicans are trying to save their majority by promising more gridlock.**

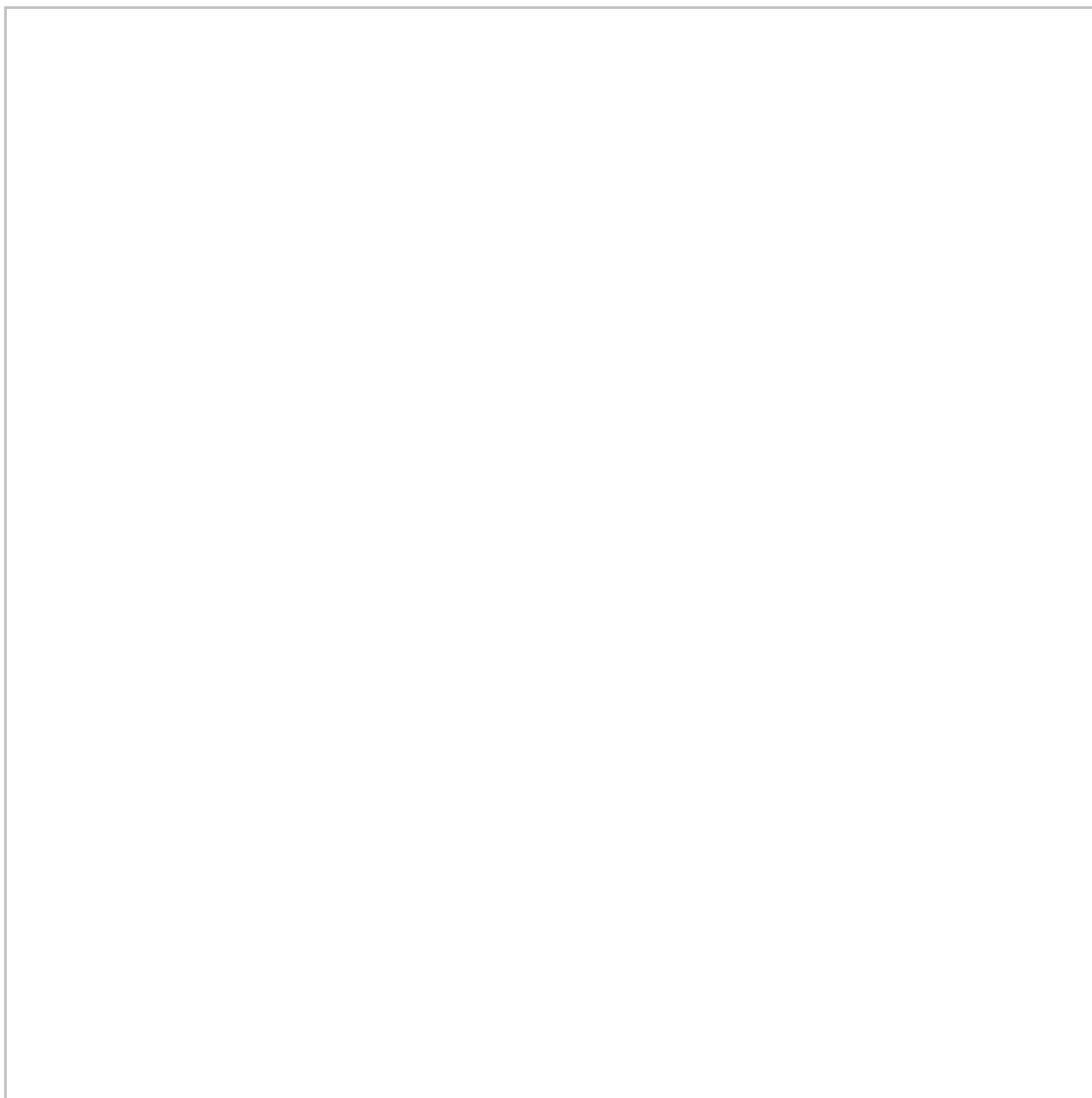
If Republicans hold the Senate, Mitch McConnell will control the floor schedule and Grassley will continue to have the Judiciary gavel. So [they technically could](#) do exactly what they have for the past nine months with Garland.



**Democrats are now favored to win the Senate majority. Even if they run the table, however, they'll only control around 53 seats.**

That is nowhere near filibuster proof. The question then becomes: Which Republicans would cross over to vote for a President Clinton's SCOTUS picks? Could a Majority Leader Chuck Schumer cobble together 60 votes? Or does he invoke the nuclear option and change the rules to allow Supreme Court nominees to be confirmed by a simple majority? **Going nuclear will probably be the easier course, both politically and procedurally**, especially because the Republican blockade of Garland has cost GOP leaders much of their moral standing to oppose such a gambit.

**Contrary to the will of the brilliant men who devised the Constitution, the Senate is increasingly becoming a majoritarian institution. Conservatives, who in principle should be alarmed by this trend, have shortsightedly accelerated it.**



A student standing in for Hillary is captured on the large monitor during a rehearsal for the debate last night at UNLV. (David Goldman/AP)

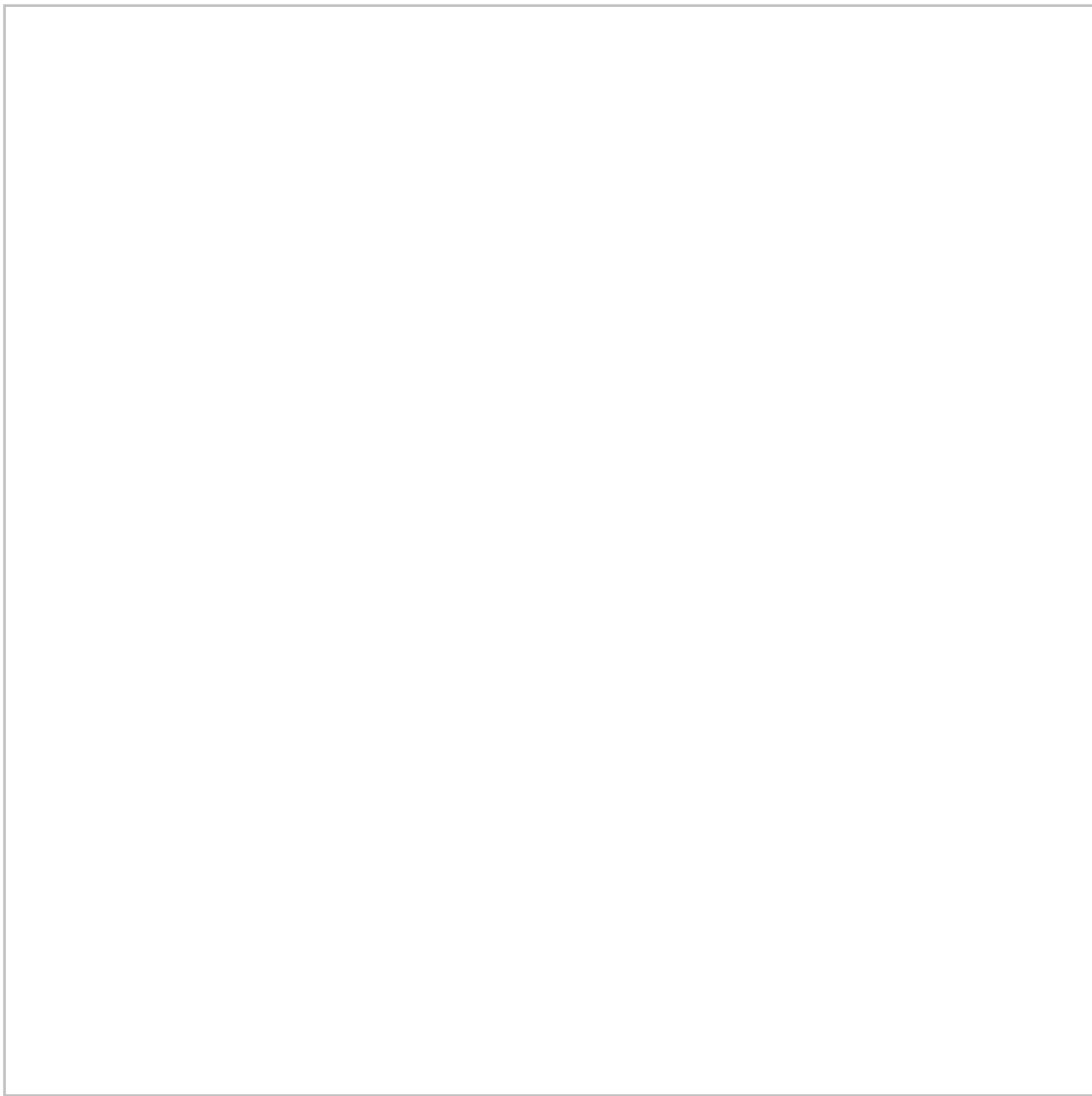
**-- There are two very important SCOTUS questions that the candidates have avoided giving direct answers to:**

**Will Clinton re-nominate Garland?** Watch for her to once again dodge on this. She's called him "extremely well qualified," and she's relying heavily on Barack Obama to get her across the finish line in November. The president sees getting Garland through during the lame-duck as a top priority and a legacy achievement, but Clinton privately wants to pick someone who is younger and more liberal than

the 63-year-old moderate.

**Will Trump commit to nominating only people who are on his list of 21 potential picks?**

Aides have said the list is definitive, but the reality TV star has suggested during interviews that he might go another direction. And he has a very long history of not being true to his word. A few of the people Trump floated have chastised him. Utah Sen. Mike Lee, on the second installment of Trump's list, subsequently called on the GOP nominee to drop out. And, amusingly, federal appellate court Judge Diane Sykes (who was in the first batch of names released by Trump) ruled earlier this month [against](#) Mike Pence. She said the Indiana governor cannot interfere with the distribution of federal funds to resettle Syrian refugees in his state.



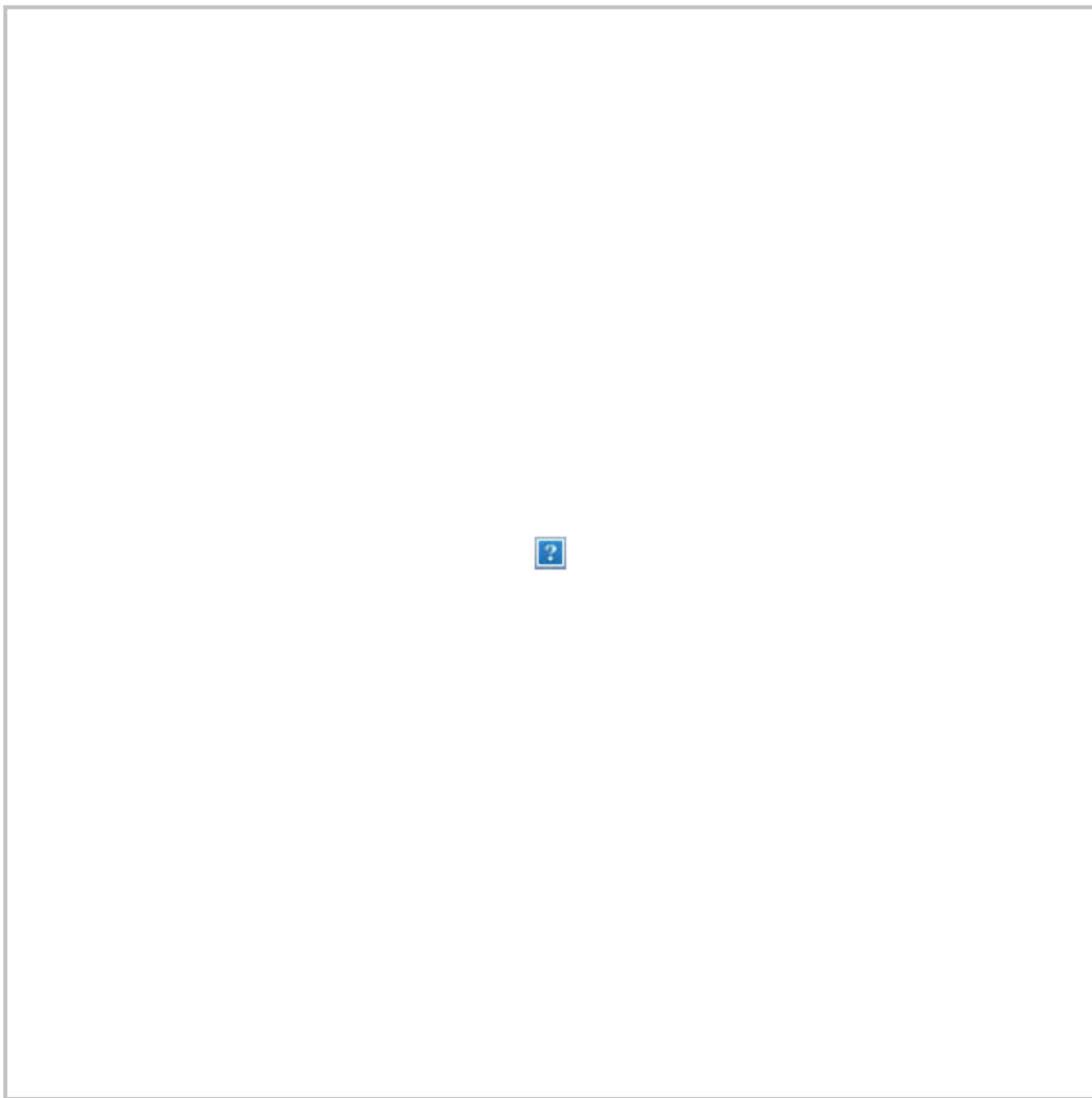
Trump speaks in Grand Junction, Colorado. (George Frey/Getty)

**-- For many conservative intellectuals, stopping Clinton from appointing Scalia's replacement is no longer a good enough reason to support Trump.** Among the Republican politicians who have capitulated, such as Ted Cruz, holding the Scalia seat is a favorite talking point to justify supporting someone who they privately see as dangerously authoritarian. But 29 top conservative legal scholars have signed onto a letter arguing that it is not enough. The "Originalists against Trump" do not believe Trump would protect the Constitution. And they do not trust him to actually pick from his list of

21. “More importantly, we do not trust him to respect constitutional limits in the rest of his conduct in office, of which judicial nominations are only one part,” they write. The group understands that the alternative is Clinton. “Yet our country’s commitment to its Constitution is not so fragile that it can be undone by a single administration or a single court,” they conclude. ([Read the full letter here.](#))

Our [Robert Barnes notes](#) that the signatories include a Northwestern law professor who was one of the founders of the Federalist Society, Steven G. Calabresi; Post columnist George F. Will; and a well-regarded conservative law professor at New York University and the University of Chicago, Richard Epstein. **“The effort was organized by Duke University law professor Stephen E. Sachs and University of Chicago law professor William Baude, a pair of former clerks to Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.”**

**Something to ponder: Will Roberts vote for Trump?** He obviously wants to regain his working majority, but he also hails from Indiana – just like Gonzalo Curiel, the federal judge whom Trump leveled repeated, racially-loaded attacks against. We’ll never know...



Bill greets Melania before the start of the last debate. (Paul J. Richards/AFP/Getty Images)

### **MORE ON WHAT TO EXPECT IN VEGAS TONIGHT:**

-- The other five topics that will get covered from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Eastern are immigration, entitlements/debt, the economy, foreign policy and each candidate's “fitness” to serve as president.

-- Trump's scorched-earth strategy continues. He is bringing as his guests Obama’s estranged half-brother Malik and the mother

**of a Benghazi victim who has accused Clinton of “murdering” her son.** It is unclear whether the campaign will reveal more surprise guests today. Clinton is bringing billionaires Mark Cuban and Meg Whitman in an effort to [rattle Trump over his wealth](#). ([Jose DelReal](#))

**-- Clinton spent much of this week off the trail preparing for their final showdown, a strategy which Trump mocked at a Colorado rally.** He told supporters she was actually at home resting instead. "You know what the debate prep is? It's resting. It's lying down, going to sleep," he said. ([Jenna Johnson](#))

**-- The Clinton campaign has requested that Bill and Melania do not shake hands before tonight's debate.** Last time, Trump planned to parade three women who accused Clinton of sexual assault into the family seating area and force the former president to shake their hands as he crossed the room. ([Jeremy Peters and Maggie Haberman](#), The New York Times)



Chris Wallace moderated the first Republican primary debate in Aug. 2015 in Cleveland. (Aaron Josefczyk/Reuters)

-- **“Chris Wallace’s Debate Role Is a Bright Spot in a Dark Year for Fox,”** by the New York Times’s Michael Grynbaum: Chris is the first Fox journalist to take charge of a general election face-off. “It would be the most consequential night of Fox News’s year — if the network had not just endured the most traumatic period in its two-decade history. [For] the team of Fox anchors and producers (in Vegas) this week, Mr. Wallace’s star turn is a welcome source of pride. And, maybe, some relief. The selection of Mr. Wallace, a veteran broadcaster with a reputation for tough, mischief-making



questions, was particularly bolstering for Fox's news division, which has viewed itself as an unfairly maligned alternative to the network's stable of conservative commentators like Mr. Hannity and Bill O'Reilly."

**-- Politico's Glenn Thrush preemptively declares that "[Clinton will be on the defensive](#)":** "Trump's fitness to lead has, rightly, been the major focus of his conventionally lousy first debate and the national disgrace of his second one. But here's some good news for him! Trump has done such a masterful job of handing Clinton the election that the inevitable focus now is on her! America wants, demands, that final kick-the-tires test, as Barack Obama said of the process – and significant questions remain about her honesty, integrity, judgment and trustworthiness. ... Beatings, like bossa novas, have a predictable rhythm. **Trump's beating (however deserved or self-inflicted) has gone on for too long in terms of the cyclical attention span of modern media, and it's simply Hillary's turn.**"

**-- Trump's odds of turning around his campaign tonight are steep, the [Boston Globe's Matt Viser](#) posits:** "Clinton arrives in Las Vegas for the final debate like a poker player holding a full house, confident and careful. Trump is furiously raising his bet, acting as if he's holding a hot hand, when polls say all he's got is a pair of jacks."

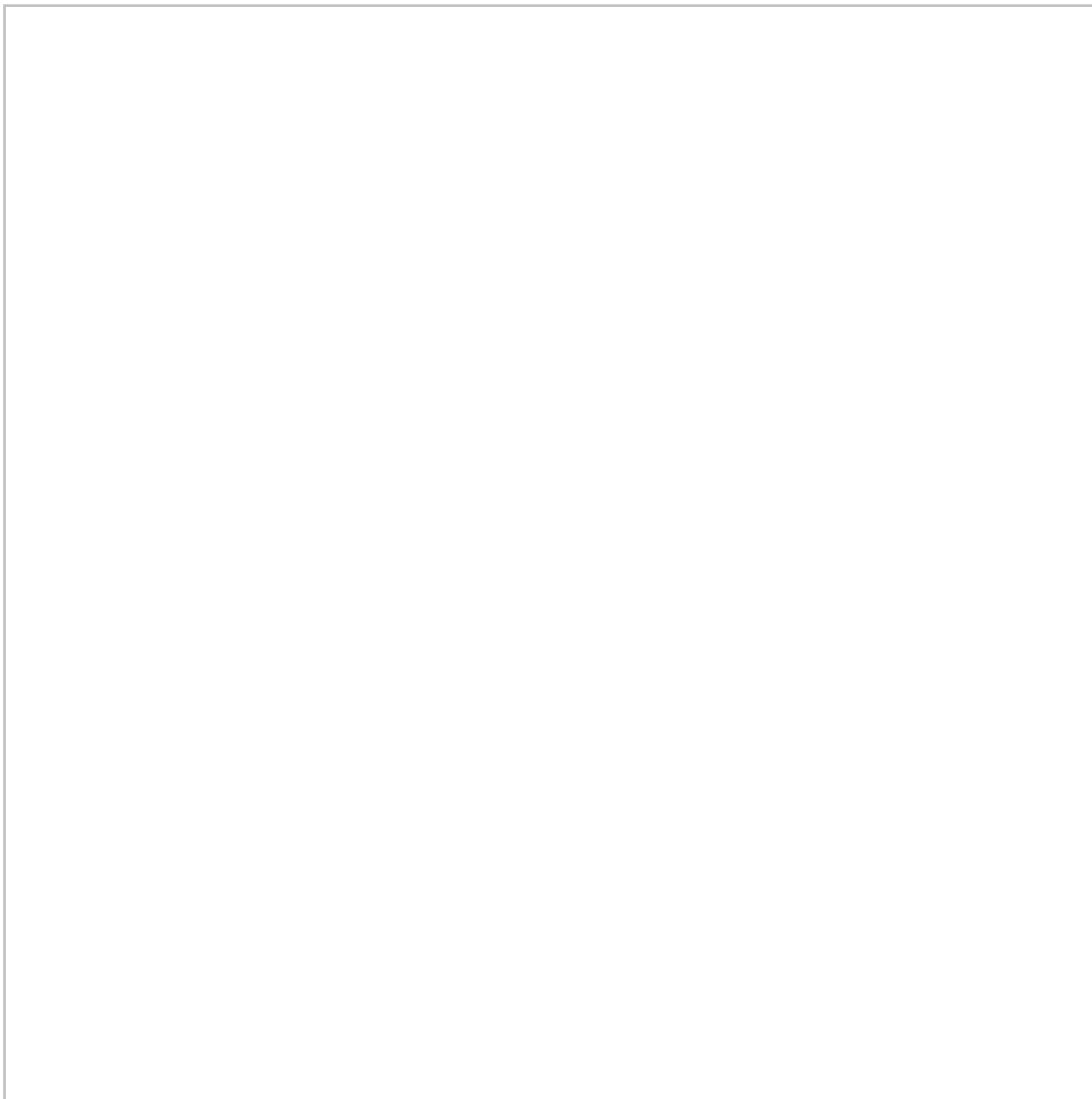
**-- Republicans are praying that Trump does not once again take Clinton's bait, per the Wall Street Journal's [Michael Bender and Laura Meckler](#):** "Democrats want Clinton to articulate a positive vision for the country, rising above the allegations of sexual misconduct and dishonesty that have permeated this election year. ...

Republicans say Trump needs to focus on his popular anti-establishment message and avoid placing any more attention on controversies over his treatment of women or rifts with fellow Republicans. 'For once he needs to make this a race that's not just about him,' said GOP consultant and former Romney adviser Kevin Madden. 'Clinton wants this race to be a referendum on Trump and his lack of temperament, and every time she lays the bait he never disappoints in taking it.'"

Welcome to the Daily 202, **PowerPost's** morning newsletter.  
With contributions from Elise Viebeck ([@eliseviebeck](#)).

[Sign up to receive the newsletter.](#)

**WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING:**



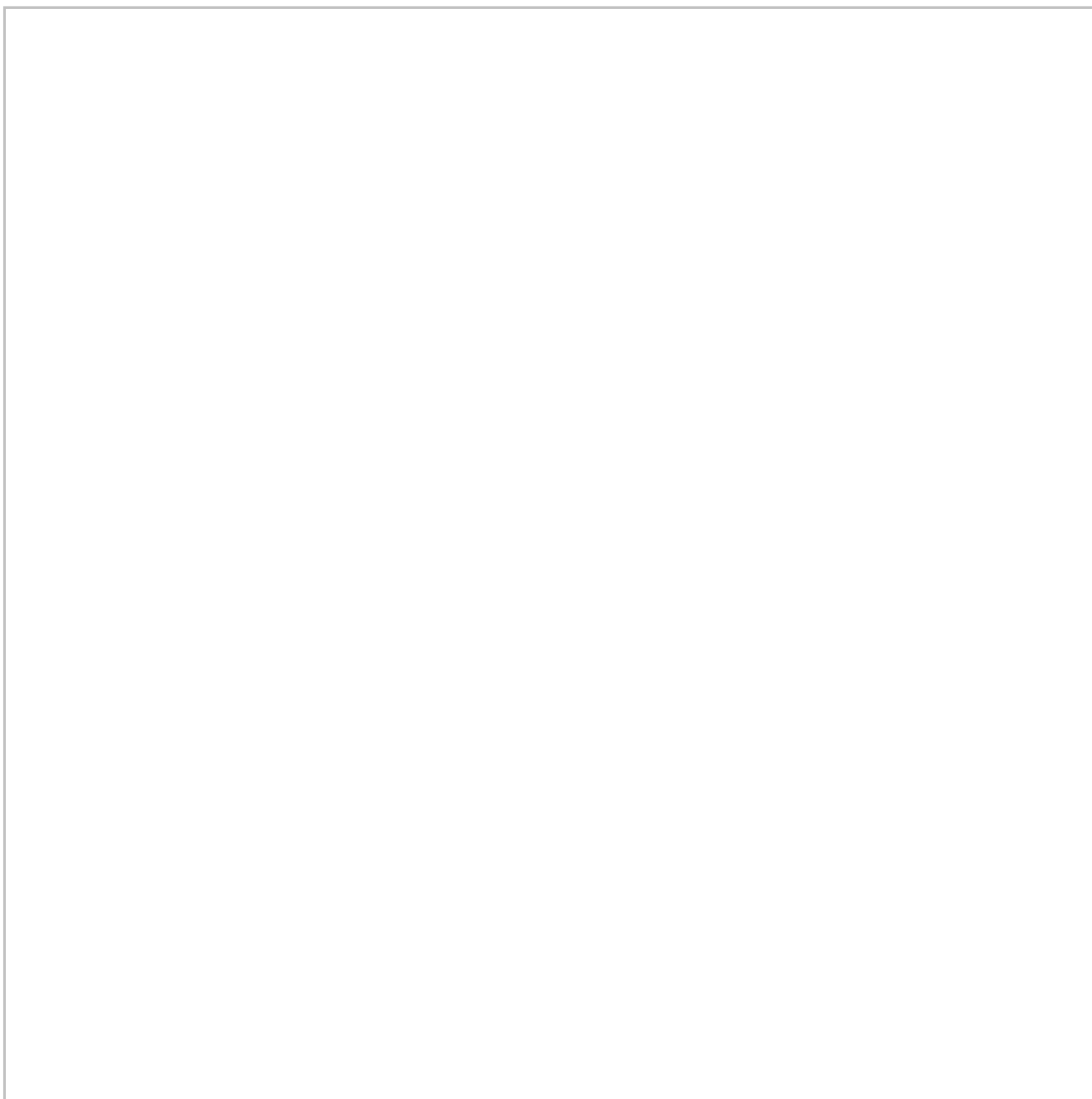
President Obama greets Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi at the White House.  
(EPA/Michael Reynolds)

**-- President Obama hosted his final state dinner, honoring Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and his wife at a celebratory -- yet nostalgic -- reception.** “If there was a collective emotion that defined the night it’d be a mix of joy and pain,” [Helena Andrews-Dyer and Emily Heil wrote](#). “Everyone involved in the Obamas’ last black tie gala felt it. From guest chef Mario Batali, who said that knowing this dinner is the last adds its own brand of pride and pressure, to the president himself, who called the swanky swan song ‘a bittersweet moment.’ Held in a tent on the South Lawn dripping with chandeliers

and dotted with mirrored tables to conjure up the Italian 'fresco' technique, the evening featured a stroll through the first lady's kitchen garden ... a four-course meal prepared by Batali and a performance by Gwen Stefani ... But despite the night's obvious symbolism as a denouement the dinner's guests probably took the opening lines of the president's traditional toast to heart: **'In the immortal words of a great Italian American, Yogi Berra, 'It ain't over 'till it's over.'"**

The Obamas rewarded many of their most loyal staffers with seats at the dinner. **Among the 380 guests were the first lady's hair stylist, makeup artist, and personal trainer...**

FLOTUS wore a custom rose-gold chain-mail gown from Atelier Versace. It was a slinky gown with an asymmetrical neckline that slithered like liquid metal down her torso and around her hips. "It was pure Hollywood glamour," [writes Fashion Critic Robin Givhan](#).



The Ecuadorian national flag flies outside their embassy in London today. (Alastair Grant/AP)

**-- Ecuador acknowledged that it “temporarily restricted” the Internet access of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange at its United Kingdom embassy after WikiLeaks posted John Podesta's emails.** A foreign ministry statement said that while it stands by its decision in 2012 to grant Assange asylum, it doesn’t interfere in foreign elections. The ministry didn’t specify the extent of the restrictions on Assange’s cyber access, saying only that the limitations wouldn’t affect WikiLeaks’s ability to carry out its journalistic activities. Do not forget: Assange is hiding out in the

embassy to avoid facing trial for alleged sexual assault. ([Nick Miroff](#))

**-- Marco Rubio urged Trump and the RNC to stop attacking Clinton over hacked emails published by Wikileaks:** "As our intelligence agencies have said, these leaks are an effort by a foreign government to interfere with our electoral process and I will not indulge it," Rubio told [ABC News's Jon Karl in an interview](#). "Further, I want to warn my fellow Republicans who may want to capitalize politically on these leaks: Today it is the Democrats. Tomorrow it could be us."

**-- Speaking of insecure email servers, Trump lives in a glass house.** From Mother Jones' [Joseph Cox](#): "A researcher has found that a number of email servers linked to [Trump's] hotel and others businesses are running horribly out of date software which receive no security patches, and are lacking other precautions for keeping hackers out." A number of mail servers for TrumpOrg.com, a domain registered to The Trump Organization, are using end-of-life software, including the operating system Windows Server 2003 and IIS 6.0. "Running outdated software and operating systems for your publicly facing email infrastructure is problematic, especially when you're a high profile organisation," said security architect Kevin Beaumont. "During an election where cybersecurity is such a big issue, I was a little amazed at what I saw."



Filipino villagers gather as they prepare for a super typhoon that may hit their village. (EPA)

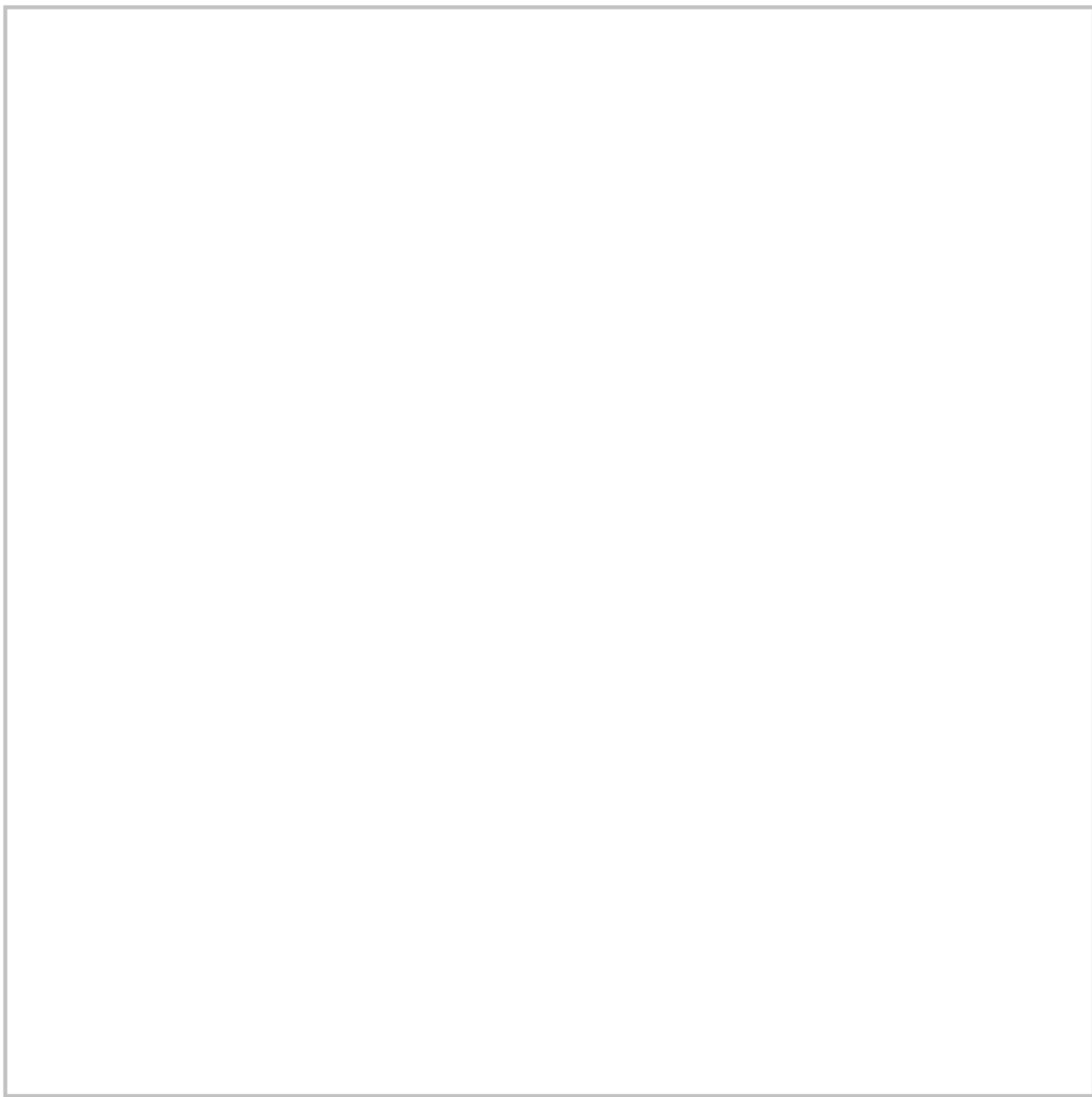
### GET SMART FAST:

1. **A dangerous super typhoon is spinning like a table saw towards the Philippines, barreling down with Category-5 level winds of 160 mph.** Local emergency managers are warning storm surge could exceed 15 feet when it makes landfall. The storm's arrival comes just days after *another* typhoon struck the country, killing at least two people. ([Angela Fritz](#))

2. **A former Arkansas judge has been arrested and accused of giving lenient sentences to male defendants in exchange for sexual favors – soliciting at least nine men between the ages of 16 and 22 for what he referred to as “community service.”** ([Kristine Guerra](#))
3. **A magistrate judge delivered a victory to a transgender high school student in Illinois, allowing her to continue to use a bathroom and locker room corresponding with her gender identity.** ([Derek Hawkins](#))
4. **More police officers have been killed in the line of duty so far this year than all of last year combined.** But federal statistics also show that being a law enforcement officer has continually gotten safer over the last four decades. Since the 1970s, the death toll for cops decreased by more than half. ([Mark Berman](#))
5. **Warring parties in Yemen agreed to a 72-hour ceasefire.** The U.N. hopes the temporary truce will lead to a “permanent and lasting end” to the conflict. ([AP](#))
6. **A new lawsuit accuses public schools in Flint, Mich., of failing to meet obligations to screen children for lead exposure.** The complaint alleges that the city’s public school system has also failed to provide critical services and interventions to counter the effects of lead exposure. ([Emma Brown](#))
7. **The University of Maryland agreed to hire more staff to address sexual assault on campus, after reports that a faculty shortage was slowing down open investigations. Student government leaders proposed a student fee to help fund the office.** ([Susan Svrluga](#))



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8. **Samsung is setting up pop-up phone exchange booths at airports across the country, allowing busy travelers to trade in Galaxy 7 smartphones that were recently banned from all U.S. flights.** But it's unclear what devices the kiosks will offer in replacement – and, as [Hayley Tsukayama](#) notes, a crowded airport is probably not the ideal place to make such a major purchase.
  9. **The Transylvania castle that inspired the “Dracula” novels will be open to two brave souls on Halloween night, thanks to an Airbnb contest.** Winners will spend the night in the 14th century digs, eating by candlelight and sleeping in velvet-lined coffins. ([Cleve R. Wootson Jr.](#))



Members of the Iraqi Special Operations Forces outside Mosul today. (Azad Lashkari/Reuters)

-- A dispatch from the front lines --> [\*\*“Evidence of a ‘difficult fight’ ahead as forces move toward ISIS-held Mosul,”\*\*](#) by **Kareem Fahim and Loveday Morris**: “To defend a few miles of unremarkable road in northern Iraq, flanked by farmland, the occasional factory and flyspeck hamlets and villages, the Islamic State militants seemed to spare no effort. They loaded a Volkswagen with explosives and secreted remote-detonated bombs ... They burned tires and dug large tunnels in houses ... The arsenal ultimately failed to protect the militants. But it seemed to slow down the action, tying up a large

contingent of Iraqi soldiers as they tried to clear the road and villages of booby traps, a few wearying feet at a time. There were still 12 grueling miles left to travel before reaching the city's outskirts. The struggle for Mosul ... is the largest and most complex so far in the battle against [ISIS] militants, who have been digging in for a fight. Residents who have recently fled the area ... say the Islamic State has been erecting concrete barricades and filling trenches with oil that can be set on fire to slow advancing forces. 'It's going to be a tough fight and a difficult fight,' Obama said on Tuesday. 'But my expectation is that ultimately it will be successful.'"



Makia Nunes, moments after she became a U.S. citizen yesterday, kisses a cardboard cutout of Hillary. She registered to vote immediately after her Naturalization Ceremony in Los Angeles. (Frederic J. Brown/AFP/Getty Images)

## **THE RACE CONTINUES TO MOVE AWAY FROM TRUMP:**

-- The chairman of a pro-Trump super PAC, Ed Rollins, told [Laura Ingraham](#) that it “would take a miracle at this point” for Trump to win.

-- Pre-spinning the loss, Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway says she cannot believe Clinton is not winning by a bigger margin given her numerous built-in advantages: “She has endless money. She’s got a lot of the media. She has a very popular president and first lady campaigning for her,” Conway [told Anderson Cooper](#). “I will tell you, I am mystified as to why she can’t get to those 52, 53 percent numbers in some of these states given the disadvantages we’re handed every day.”

-- Las Vegas bookies now have Clinton as [a six-to-one favorite](#).

-- A Washington Post/Survey Monkey poll of 15 battleground states gives Clinton a “decisive advantage” over Trump in the competition for Electoral College votes. From [Dan Balz and Scott Clement](#): “Based on the results ... along with assumptions of the likely outcomes in other states that have consistently voted for one party or the other, [Clinton] holds leads of four percentage points or more among likely voters in states that add up to 304 electoral votes. Trump, [meanwhile], has the advantage in states with an estimated electoral vote total of 138. Arizona, Florida, Ohio and Texas, which account for 96 electoral votes, remain as toss-ups.”

**Down-ballot Republicans continue to outperform Trump in our survey:** “Democrats need a net gain of five seats to take outright control -- four to exercise control if Clinton becomes president. The results showed Democrats with leads of four or more points in three states with GOP incumbents: New Hampshire, North Carolina and Wisconsin. Republican incumbents lead in Florida and Ohio, in the latter by a wide margin. Meanwhile, races in Nevada, for a seat currently held by Democrats, and Pennsylvania, for a seat now in Republican hands, continue to be close.”

**-- A [Bloomberg Politics poll](#) shows Clinton with a 9 point national lead (50-41). The two tied last month.** Trump is losing support among both men and those without college degrees. “This poll shows movement toward Clinton with all the right groups it takes to win,” said pollster J. Ann Selzer. “Their alignment with Clinton is a formidable change in the algebra.”

**-- An [Arizona Republic/Arizona State University](#) poll shows Clinton AHEAD in ARIZONA by 5 points.** Waning support for the Republican nominee does not appear to have shifted down-ballot, however, with McCain leading by 11 points over Democratic challenger Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick. **Support for the presidential candidates also appears to be somewhat baked into the cake, with two-thirds of voters saying they were not influenced by the previous two debates.** Of respondents who indicated the debate was influential, 16 percent said they were more likely to back Clinton. 9 percent said the same of Trump.

**-- The [University of Houston](#) finds Trump is only ahead by 3 points in Texas (41-38).**

-- [St. Norbert College](#) shows Clinton leading by 8 points in Wisconsin (47-39).

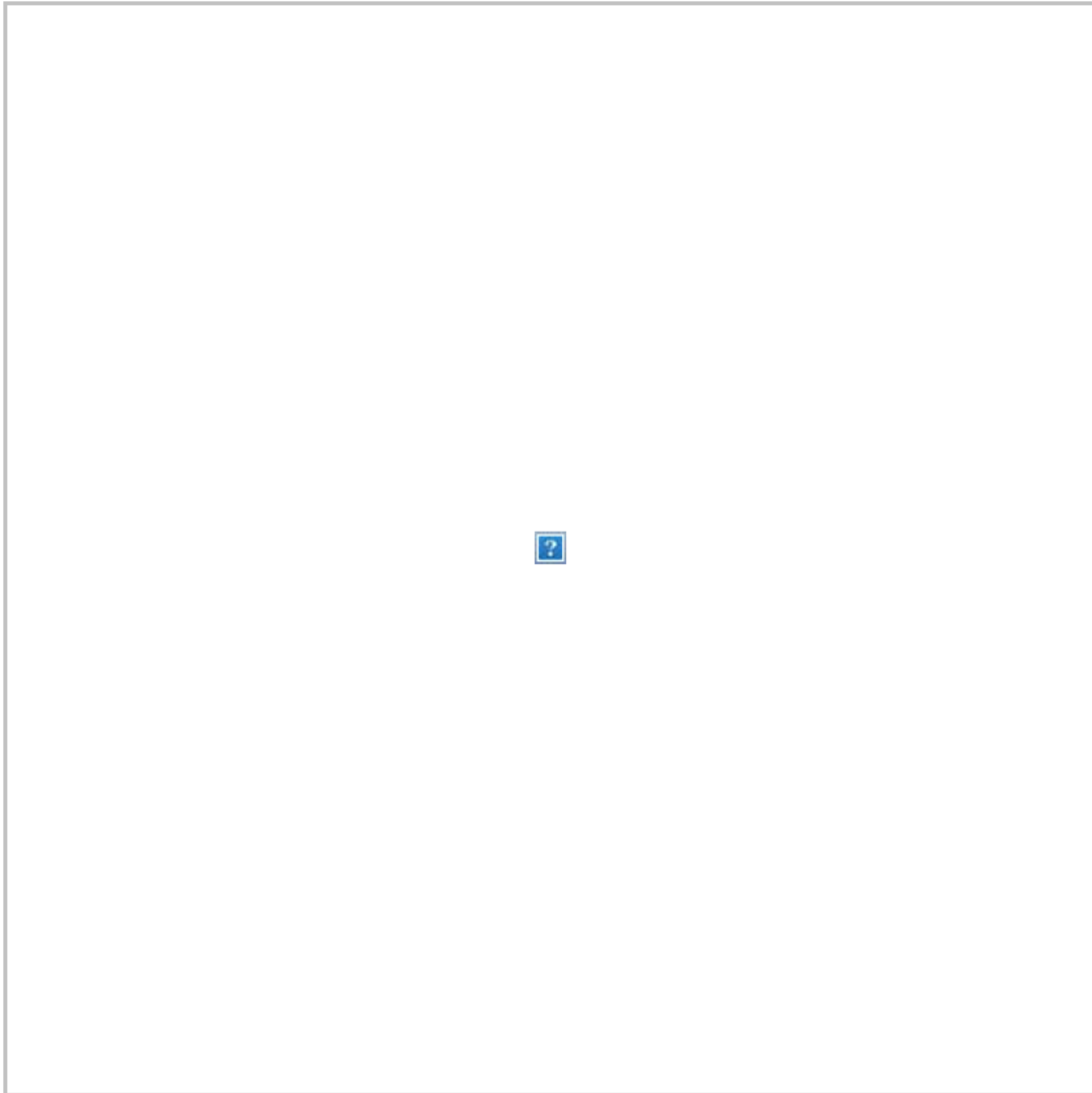
-- [Monmouth University](#) puts Clinton up 7 points in Nevada (47-40). Her surge in the state is largely attributed to younger, non-white voters moving into her column over the past month.

-- A [Fox News national poll](#) shows Clinton up 6 points (45-39).

-- The Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun conducted a poll asking which candidate people thought would be more appropriate as the U.S. president. They found that only 3 percent of Japanese picked Trump, while 73 percent preferred Clinton. The rest had no opinion. The wording is non-traditional, but WaPo pollster Scott Clement checked out the paper's methodology and says it is legit. This will not surprise close poll watchers. [Previous international surveys](#) have found Trump to be exceptionally unpopular.

-- **Fear of an imminent terrorist attack is one of the top concerns of people across the globe**, with most expecting extremist groups will acquire weapons of mass destruction, according to a new poll conducted in eight countries. From [Carol Morello](#): "The [survey, commissioned by the Center for Strategic and International Studies](#) (CSIS), showed that many people think their governments are not doing enough to combat violent extremism. And a majority in every country polled, including the United States, overwhelmingly approved all 21 options presented to them — among them, requiring identification cards for citizens and visitors; rigorous screening of immigrants; bans on incendiary religious speech; and monitoring of

phone calls, emails and social media."



Clinton takes a selfie with the crowd at a voter registration rally at Wayne State University in Detroit. (Reuters/Lucy Nicholson)

## **THE DAILY HILLARY:**

**-- Former FBI agent Brian McCauley pushed back on allegations of a "quid pro quo." He confirmed that he spoke to a top State Department official about changing the classified status of one of Clinton's emails, as well as a long-standing FBI request for additional staffing in U.S. embassies, but he denied that any**



**inappropriate collusion ever took place.** In an interview with [Matt Zapotosky](#), McCauley acknowledged that he offered to do a favor in exchange for another favor, but before he had any inkling of what Kennedy wanted. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015. McCauley said that when he learned the missive concerned the attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, he told Kennedy he could not help him. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015.

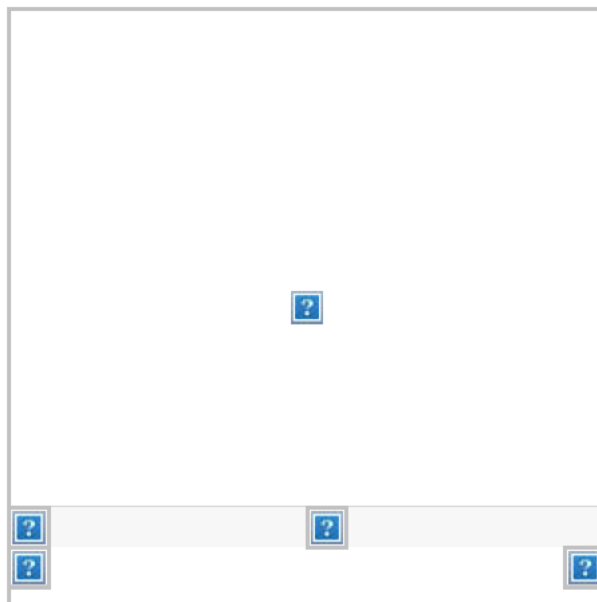
**-- “Black activists and organizers, frustrated with the Clinton campaign’s inability to engage young voters, have taken it upon themselves to challenge their peers to consider the consequences if Republicans take the White House,”** [Vanessa Williams reports](#). “They also have encouraged young voters to focus on state and local elections, because those officials make decisions about how police departments and schools are run, issues that more directly affect their lives. Younger African Americans, like many millennials, are not excited about this year’s presidential election ... [but] because Trump’s campaign has laid bare racist attitudes, the seeming indifference of black millennials to the election has sparked broad discussion within the African American community.”

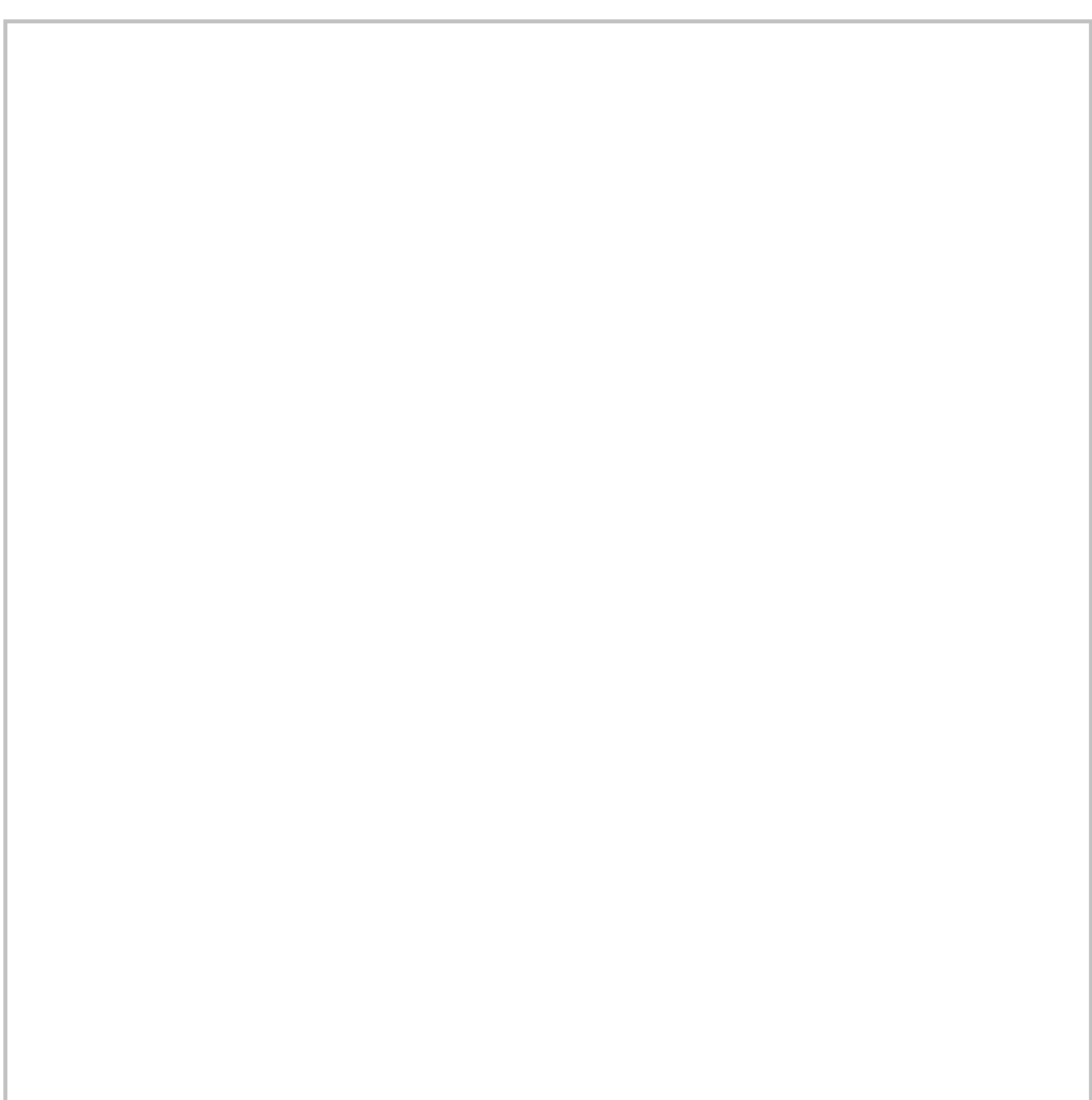
**-- Seventy Nobel Laureates endorsed Clinton, arguing that her election is “crucial for safeguarding freedom and preserving a constitutional government.”** Signatories include world-renowned



experts in science, medicine and economics, such as chemist Peter Agre, economist Robert Shiller, and physicist Robert Woodrow Wilson. Separately, a group of 140 conservative writers urged voters to reject Trump, calling him “most dangerous to our nation’s founding ideals” in an open letter. Several former Republican White House staffers are on the list. ([New York Times](#))

ADVERTISEMENT





John Podesta boards the Clinton campaign plane in White Plains, New York, yesterday en route to Las Vegas. (Lucy Nicholson/Reuters)

-- **An early draft of Clinton's V.P. list:** John Podesta in mid-March emailed Clinton a preliminary list of names to consider for her running mate, organized into what he termed "rough food groups." WikiLeaks posted it yesterday, and [the Journal wrote it up](#):

The first group included her **Latino options**, including Secretary of Labor Tom Perez and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julián Castro.

The second consisted of **black candidates**, including Cory Booker and Eric Holder.

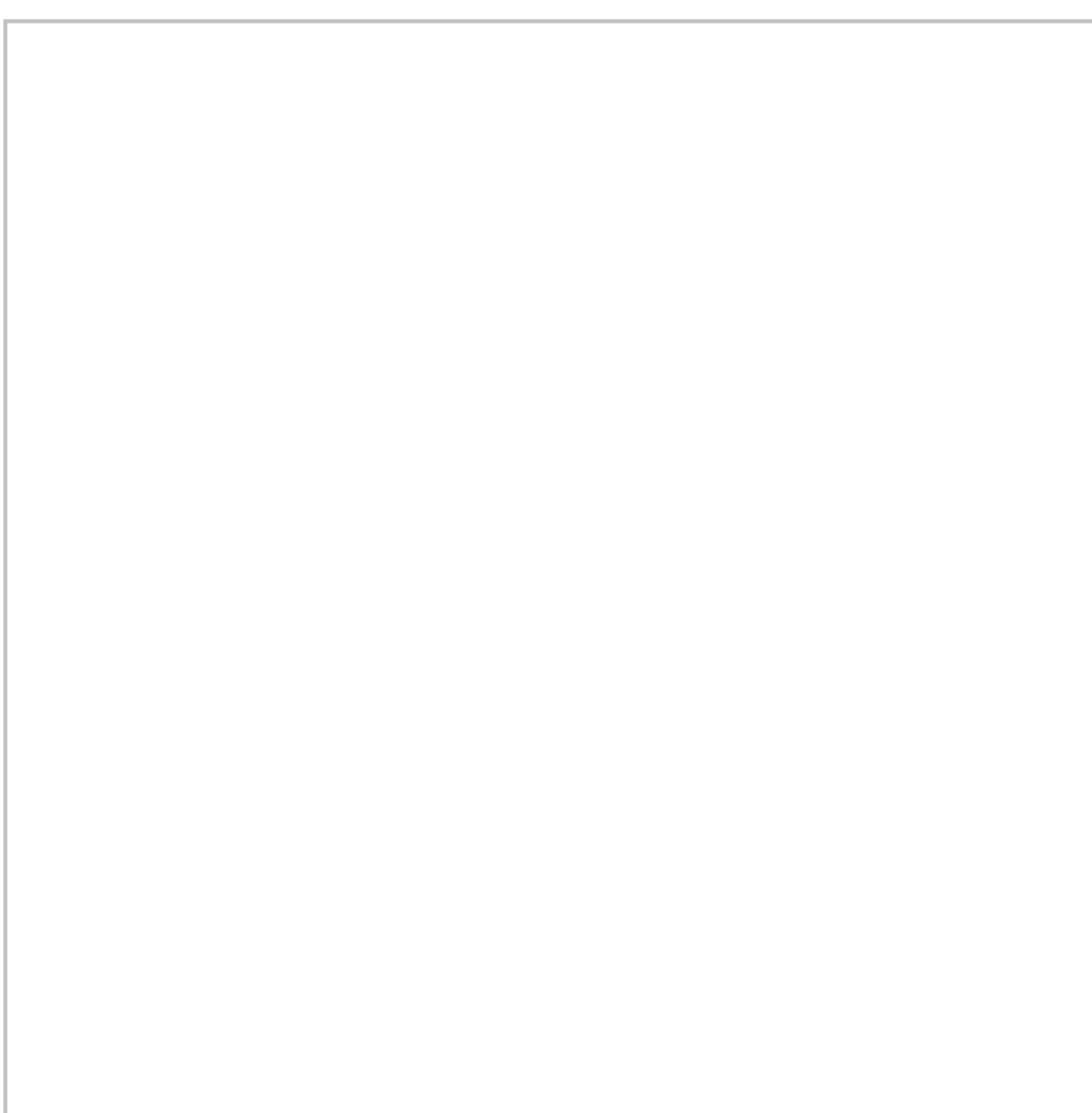
The third was **white men who could help in a swing state**, including Tim Kaine, Terry McAuliffe and Sherrod Brown.

Another section included **seven women**, including Elizabeth Warren and Jeanne Shaheen.

He also suggested **three military names**, including retired Marine Corps Gen. John Allen.

Podesta also floated **corporate options**, including Bill Gates, Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, Michael Bloomberg; Apple CEO Tim Cook and Coca-Cola Co. CEO Muhtar Kent.

The final category had just one name: **Bernie Sanders**.



Melania, Ivanka, Eric and Donald Trump, Jr. wait for the start of the second debate St. Louis. (John Locher/AP)

## **THE DAILY DONALD:**

-- **People Magazine published six stories** from friends and colleagues of Trump accuser **Natasha Stoyneff**, corroborating her accusation that the **Republican nominee forced himself on her in 2005**. Two people who went on the record are now People editors - deputy East Coast editor Mary Green and East Coast editor Liz McNeil. Another is Stoyneff's former journalism professor, who says she called him looking for advice immediately afterwards. And

yet another friend went on the record to back her claims that she ran into Melania Trump on Fifth Avenue after the assault. The report comes as both Donald and Melania have denied the story and threatened legal action.

**-- Video surfaced yesterday of Trump attacking Condi Rice in 2006: "I wish she was a b\*\*ch," he said.** "I don't care if she's a lovely woman. I want somebody that can go and make deals. She goes to countries, nothing ever happens. Except sound bytes." When asked if she had any response to the New York Daily News report on Trump's remarks, the former secretary of state emailed [CNN](#): "Can't wait until November 9!"

**-- Trump's alleged misconduct has started a national conversation about sexual assault.** From [Katie Zezima](#): "The debate has been particularly painful for many victims of sexual assault, who now must endure nonstop coverage of allegations of groping and kissing without consent — along with backlash against the women who made the claims about Trump. But in the 2016 presidential election, the issue has become sharply divided along partisan lines, including claims by some Trump allies that the behavior described by Trump's accusers ... might not be considered assault. The resistance against the accusers is particularly awkward for the Trump campaign, which simultaneously argues that women who accused Bill Clinton of wrongdoing years ago should be believed." GOP strategist Ashley O'Connor said that Trump is essentially saying, "You need to believe the people who have come forward and accused [Bill]. You need to believe that [Hillary] was attacking these women. But don't believe the women who have come

forward against me.”

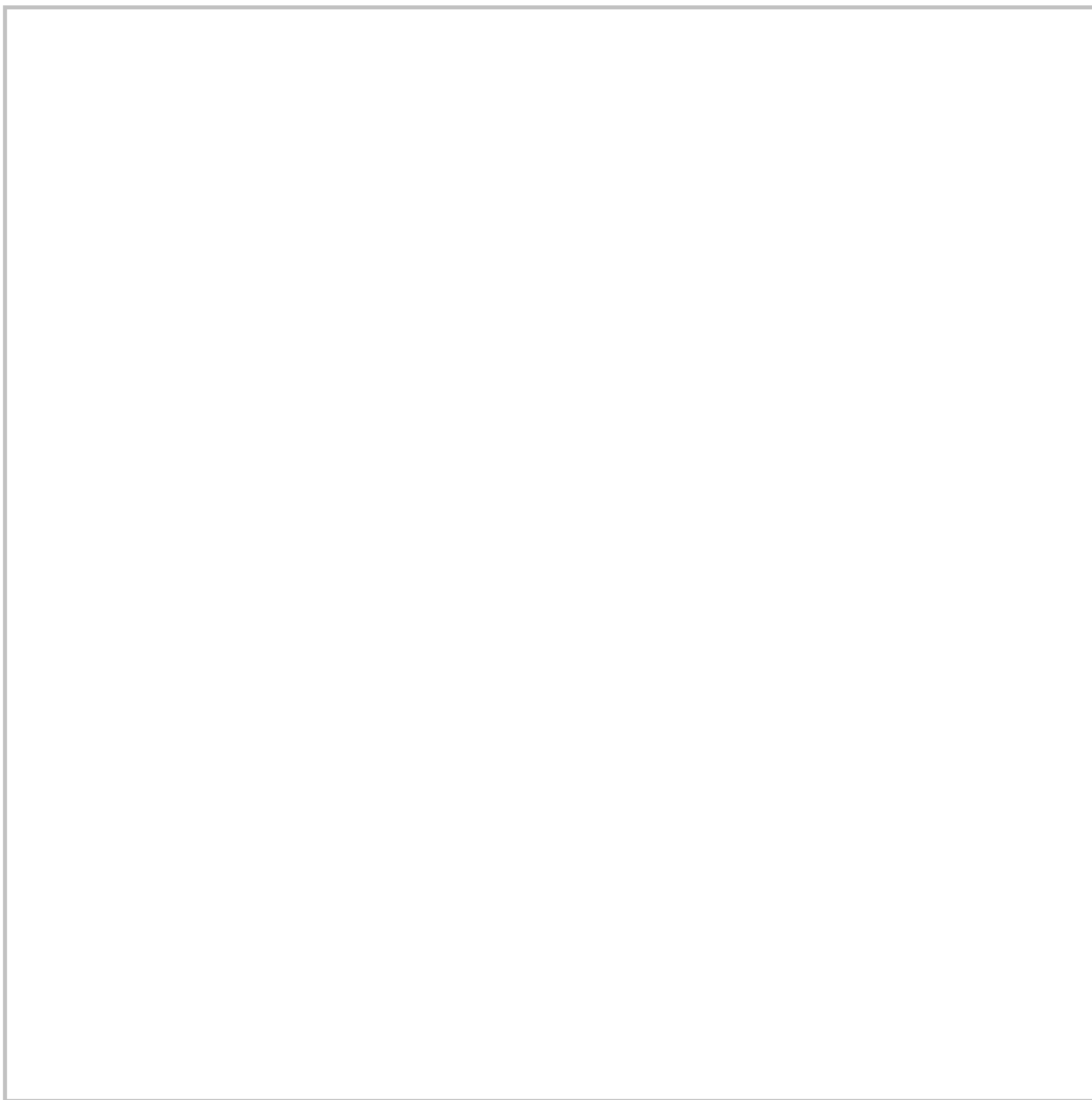
**-- Melania is taking a page from the old Hillary playbook:** “Until now, Melania Trump has declined to fulfill the mundane tasks of political wives, saying her duties to her young son are more important than the demand that a spouse go along for the ride to ‘humanize’ a candidate,” [Karen Tumulty writes](#). “Now, however, she has found herself in a time-honored duty for a political wife when a sex scandal hits — cleanup. [But] even as she defends her husband, [Melania] is willing to go only so far: In a moment where the script would appear to call for her to share a little more about ‘the man I know,’ she offered no personal glimpses of their lives. There was nothing more revealing than what one might hear in a campaign ad — outside, perhaps, her observation that she feels like she is living with two boys, not one.”

**-- Ivanka addressed her father’s lewd 2005 remarks for the first time, telling [Fast Company](#) that his conversation with Billy Bush was “clearly inappropriate and offensive.”** “I’m glad that he acknowledged this fact with an immediate apology to my family and the American people,” she added in a statement.

**-- Donald Jr. has made a series of offensive statements during interviews with shock-jock radio hosts.** CNN’s Andrew Kaczynski unearthed a [trove of controversial remarks](#) from the candidate’s son:

- **He joked about the Aurora movie theater shooting *on the same day 12 people were killed*:** After footage was played from a witness recounting the tragedy, Trump Jr. quipped that the survivor will still give the film “two thumbs up.”

- **He joked about child abuse at beauty pageants:** "They yell at the kids like, yeah 'You didn't do good, you forgot to turn! You forgot your turn!'" a host said, depicting the role of a stage parent. "The kids, they're crying," Trump Jr. said. "I just wanna play with Barbie." "She beats me when you're not here," said the host. "She's like limping," added Trump Jr., mocking a child's voice. "Help me, help me." **Trump Jr. added of the moms at beauty pageants, "They're all fat. Ugly."**
- **On not being able to mock overweight people:** "By the way you can't ... even make fat jokes now ... that's almost the worst one," he said. "It's easier to, like, do a racial thing, than it is a fat one because everyone knows they're fat and they get really offended."



Trump tells supporters to 'watch' St. Louis, Philadelphia and Chicago for voter fraud

**-- Doubling down on his rigged election rhetoric, Trump yesterday provided his supporters with a list of three cities where they should watch for corruption on Election Day.** "Take a look at St. Louis. Take a look at Philadelphia. Take a look at Chicago," Trump said in Colorado. "Look, look, if nothing else, people are going to be watching on November 8. Watch Philadelphia. Watch St. Louis. Watch Chicago, watch Chicago. Watch so many other places." (Two of those cities are in states that are not considered competitive, [Jenna Johnson notes](#).)



**-- Local election officials are panicking that Trump's reckless rhetoric will lead his supporters to bring guns to polling places, but they're mostly powerless to do anything about it:** "The Prince William County (Virginia) electoral board ... considered seeking a one-day ban on weapons at polling places located on private property but was rebuked by a gun-friendly state legislator," [Patricia Sullivan reports](#). "Del. Robert G. Marshall (R-Prince William) sent a letter to the board pointing out that it has no power to ban guns from polling places except for schools and courthouses, where weapons are prohibited by state law. ... Virginia's election officials have been discussing on their private email list the possibility of intimidation or violence Nov. 8 and talking about what to do about unruly observers. ... Seventy of Prince William's 91 polling places are in schools, with the remaining 21 in churches, fire halls and community centers. Firearms are allowed in county government buildings, such as fire stations, libraries and community centers."

**-- Trump called for a Constitutional amendment to put in place congressional term limits, but he provided no details about the details.** ([Jenna Johnson](#))



Supporters of Nicolas Maduro display a giant inflatable dummy depicting late President Hugo Chavez in Caracas. (Juan Barreto/Getty)

-- **Venezuelan journalist and political scientist [Francisco Toro](#) argues that Trump really is much more like Nicolás Maduro than Hugo Chavez:** “Again and again, since taking over in 2013, Maduro has run roughshod over the constitution in ways Chávez never dared to ... [and] for Venezuelans, the past year has been an object lesson in how dangerous this approach can be. Last week, we followed this crazy dynamic off the deep end, when the court overturned 800 years of constitutional practice, dating back to the original Magna Carta, ruling that when the constitution says the legislative branch has to

vote on the national budget, it means the president can just approve budgets on his own. ... **Having your democracy commit suicide under the lure of a charismatic demagogue is not the kind of experience you can fully make sense of unless you've lived it in your own skin.** Before 2016, no explanation I could give my American friends was enough. Now, my American friends can just turn on CNN and watch it happening live.”

### **THE BATTLEGROUND:**

-- **A civil rights group filed a federal lawsuit to force Virginia to extend its voter registration period, after the state's online system crashed on Monday.** The technological glitch prohibited registration from an unknown number of participants. Some have estimated the number to be in the “tens of thousands.” ([Laura Vozzella](#))

-- **Pro-Clinton super PAC Priorities USA announced it will begin airing ads in two Senate races and will start airing television and radio ads in Georgia to boost Clinton.** “New ads will support Gov. Maggie Hassan in the New Hampshire Senate race against Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte and Katie McGinty in the Pennsylvania Senate race against Sen. Patrick J. Toomey,” [Abby Phillip writes](#). “The super PAC also plans a new seven-figure television ad buy in Georgia in addition to new radio ads targeted at African American voters. The state has not been won by the Democratic presidential nominee since 1992.”

-- **DNC officials issued an apology after one of its campaign buses was recorded illegally dumping sewage into a Georgia**

**storm drain, calling the leak an “honest” but “unacceptable” mistake.** The driver of the bus – adorned with larger-than-life faces of Clinton and Kaine – said the vehicle’s sewage tank was full and leaking out. A guy in an auto parts repair store spotted him and record it. ([Katie Mettler](#))

**-- The race for Rep. Barbara Comstock’s House seat in Northern Virginia has tightened.** From [Jenna Portnoy](#): The Cook Political Report is moving the race up to toss-up, while the Rothenberg & Gonzales Political Report already considers it a toss-up district, tilting to the Republican. “Experts consider the district among the most competitive in the nation despite lackluster fundraising numbers from Democratic challenger LuAnn Bennett and evidence [Trump] might not be the anchor on down-ballot candidates some had expected,” Portnoy writes. The two will face off this morning for the final debate of the campaign.

**-- “[Clinton Challenges Trump for a Traditional Republican Bloc: White Catholics](#),” by the New York Times's Jason Horowitz in Philly:** “Since the election of Ronald Reagan, white Roman Catholics have flocked to Republican nominees for a raft of reasons, including their stances on social issues like abortion and same-sex marriage. But this year, something seems different. ‘Trump is the exception to the rule,’ said 67-year-old Carol Robinson, leaving an afternoon prayer meeting in Philadelphia. ‘He’s a loose cannon.’ Roman Catholics are the country’s second-largest religious group after evangelical Protestants, and they are as diverse as the country itself, with young liberals, cultural conservatives and, increasingly, Democratic-leaning Hispanics.”

**One quiet influencer could be Pope Francis**, wh emphasizes inclusion and the welfare of the poor over divisive issues like abortion and homosexuality. In February, he suggested Trump “is not a Christian.”

**-- Harry Reid reflects on when Trump used to be one of his donors in [an interview with Paul Kane](#):** “Reid found a priceless piece of memorabilia recently while sorting through 34 years of congressional papers. It’s a picture of Reid with [Trump], inside the real-estate developer’s Manhattan home, both men smiling. He’s pretty sure it’s from 1992, when [he] was running his first Senate reelection bid and when [Trump] was happy to help Democrats. Reid appreciated Trump’s generosity. ‘He wasn’t much of a big shot then, neither was I,’ Reid recalled ... Over the years when Trump was a reliable donor to Senate Democrats, Reid saw no signs of a future Republican presidential candidate who he would later eviscerate as a ‘racist’ and a ‘human leech.’ Now, heading into political twilight, the former boxer is clearly relishing what is essentially his last campaign through attacks on Trump ... ‘I’m kind of an unusual politician,’ he said.”



Libertarian Lucy Brenton, Democrat Evan Bayh and Republican Todd Young debate in Indianapolis last night. (AP Photo/Michael Conroy, Pool)

## **SENATE DEBATES:**

-- **“Indiana’s Senate race got personal Tuesday,” the [Indianapolis Star’s](#) Maureen Groppe and James Briggs write.**

“After weeks of attacking each other in campaign commercials, former Sen. Evan Bayh and GOP Rep. Todd Young directly accused each other of not representing Hoosiers’ interests in their [sole debate] ... Young repeatedly charged Bayh, a Democrat, with following the orders of Washington insiders and looking out for

himself. 'Evan Bayh took the money and ran,' Young said after criticizing Bayh's vote for the Affordable Care Act. 'He joined a major lobbying firm in Washington, D.C., and he represented clients that needed relief from the very problem he created from Obamacare.' Bayh said Young has voted against the needs of veterans, seniors and workers who are losing their jobs to overseas competition. And he accused Young of lying about his record. 'Congressman Young has told so many whoppers here tonight, it's hard to keep track,'" Bayh said.

**-- The final debate between Sen. Ron Johnson and Democrat Russ Feingold also turned personal, the [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel's Bill Glauber reports](#):** "Skirmishing over campaign finance, national security, the economy and the presidential candidates, the men engaged in a feisty 90-minute clash ... With polls showing a tight race, there was little room for error as the candidates sought to shore up their base support while reaching out to the small number of undecided voters. In a sense, the debate was six years in the making as the two men entered the closing stretch of their rematch race. Throughout the debate, Feingold claimed that Johnson 'didn't have a plan' on issues. Johnson fired back, 'Senator Feingold is always going to have a plan to grow government.'" "I will stand with the people of this state," Feingold said. "Senator Johnson stands with the corporations, the billionaires and the multi-millionaires." In rebuttal, Johnson said he "understands what it's like to work": "I'm the working man," he said. "I've worked hard all my life."





A pan handler sits with a "Give me \$1 or I'm voting for Trump" sign in Manhattan.  
(Carlo Allegri)

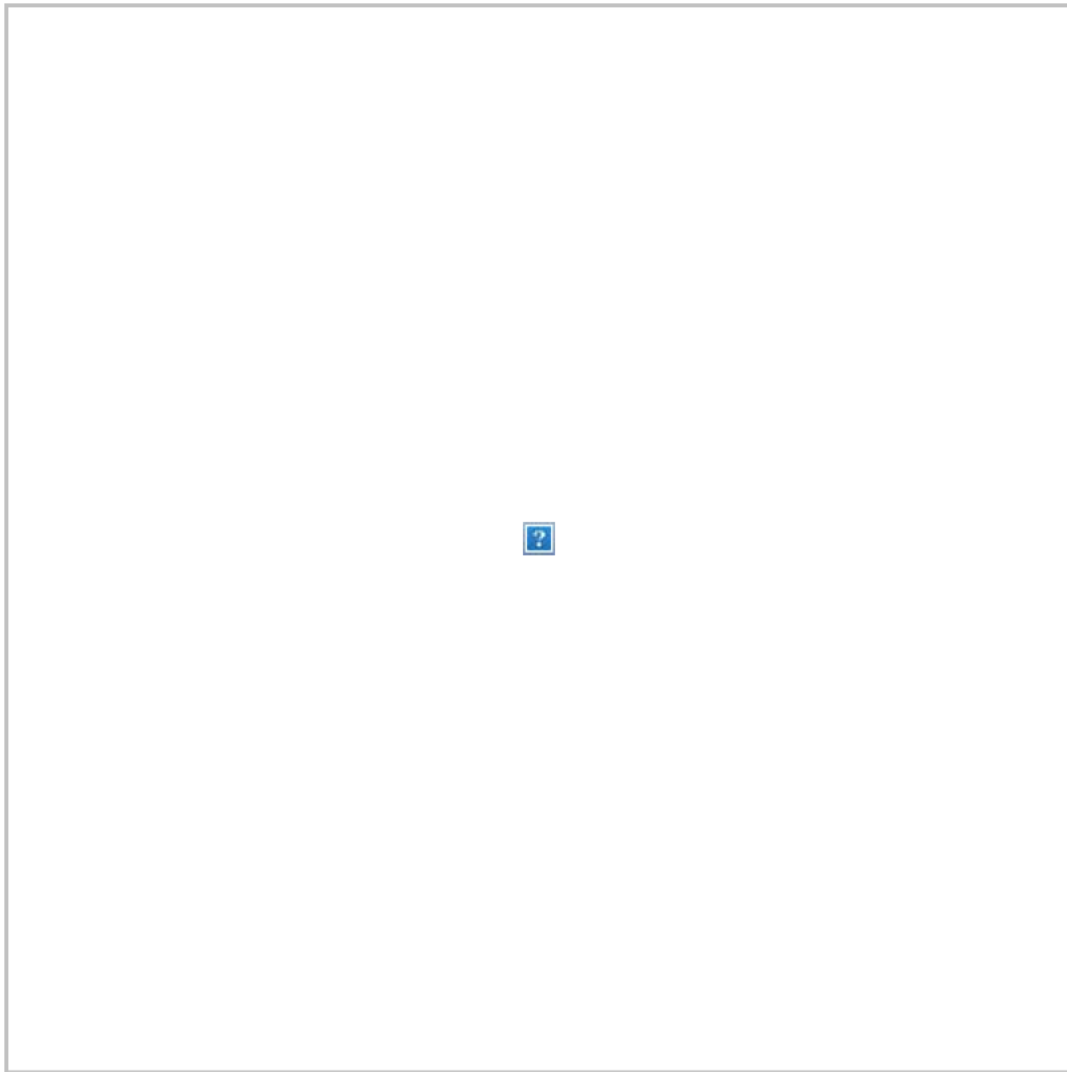
### **IT'S SILLY SEASON:**

**-- A Wisconsin woman was arrested after she spread peanut butter on 30 cars that she believed belonged to Trump supporters. But it turns out the cars actually belonged to members of a local conservation club!** "Witnesses said 32-year-old Christina Ferguson stormed into the club meeting on Monday night, holding what a Portage County deputy's report described as a 'family-size jar of low-sodium, creamy natural Jif,'" [HuffPost](#) reports. "Officers



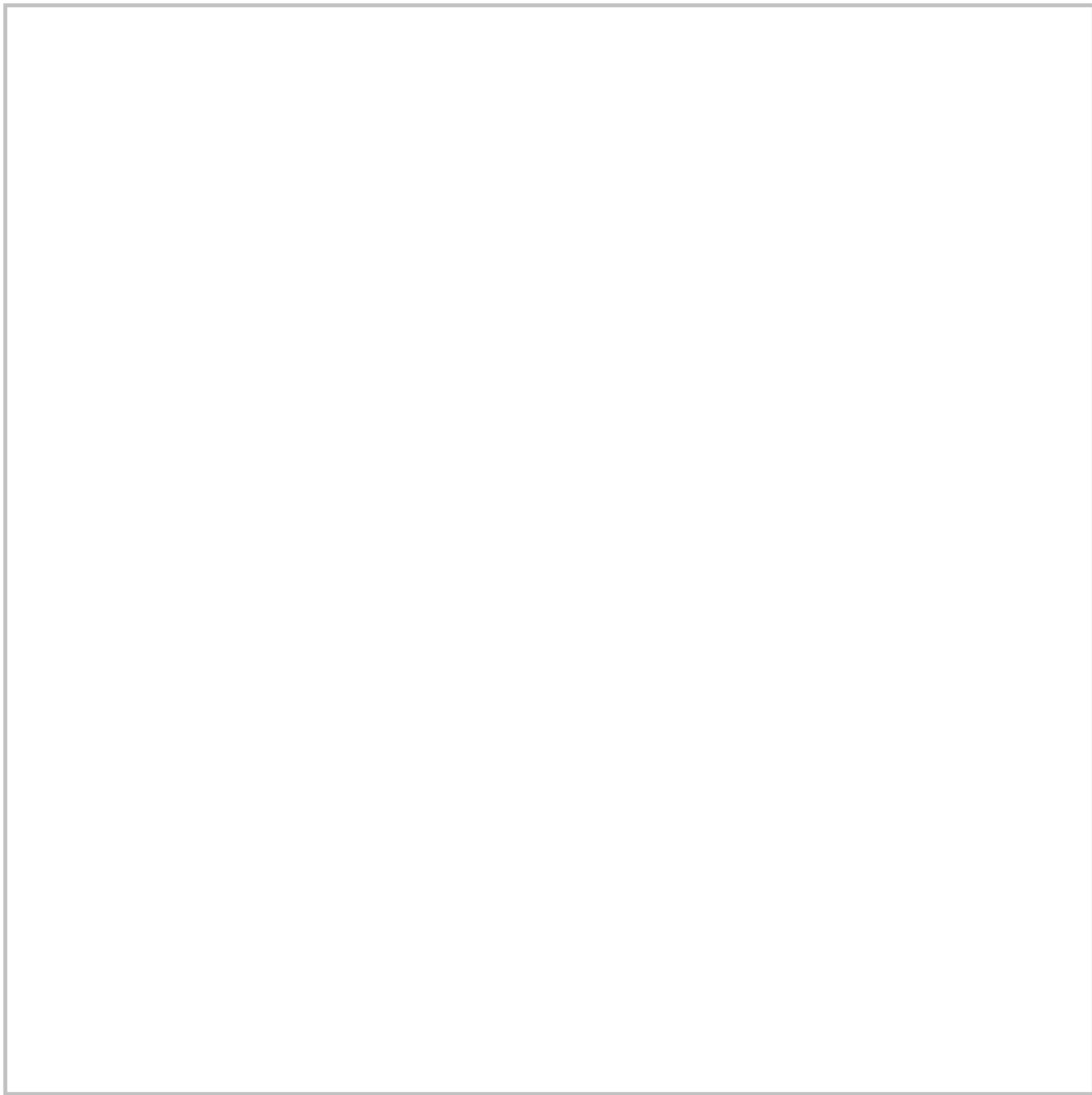
said Ferguson grew emotional as she explained how much she loved Clinton and hated Trump. She then explained why she'd misused peanut butter. 'Peanut butter is better than fire-bombing,' the officer quoted her as saying. She added that Trump wants to fire-bomb everybody in other countries."

**-- A naked, hoofed statue of Hillary prompted a scuffle in Manhattan. An outraged Clinton supporter destroyed it while the artist tried in vain to save it, the [New York Post](#). (Travis Andrews)**



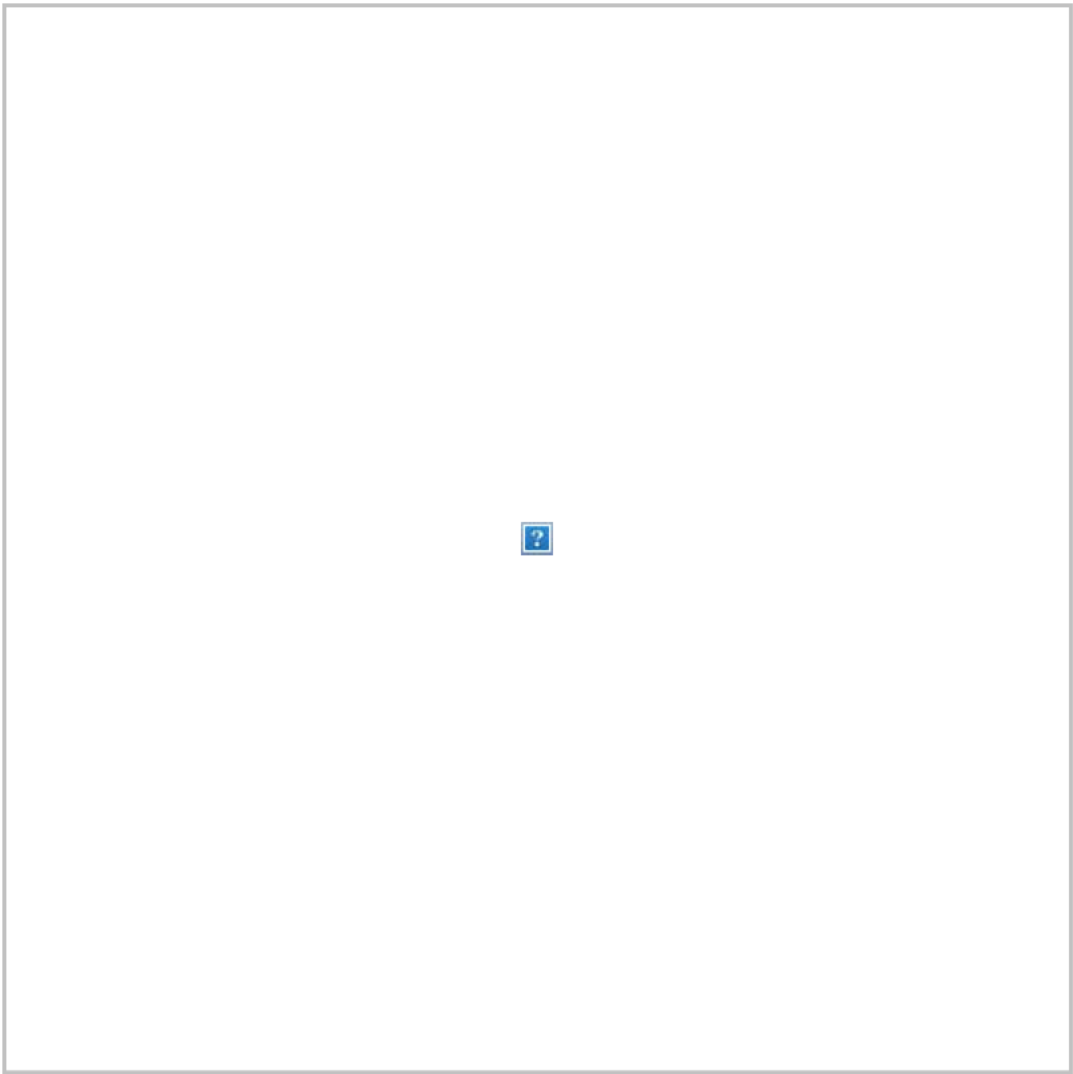
**SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:**

**Over 62 million people on Facebook in the U.S. posted about, shared, liked or commented on content related to Trump over 931 million times in the last month.** The chart below shows the unique number of people on Facebook engaging in the conversation about each candidate – as well as the number of interactions those people generated. Interactions represents the total aggregate number of likes, posts, comments and shares made about a particular candidate within the timeframe. The interactions figure includes not only the activity on the candidate's page, but all of the likes, posts, comments and shares about that candidate from throughout Facebook:

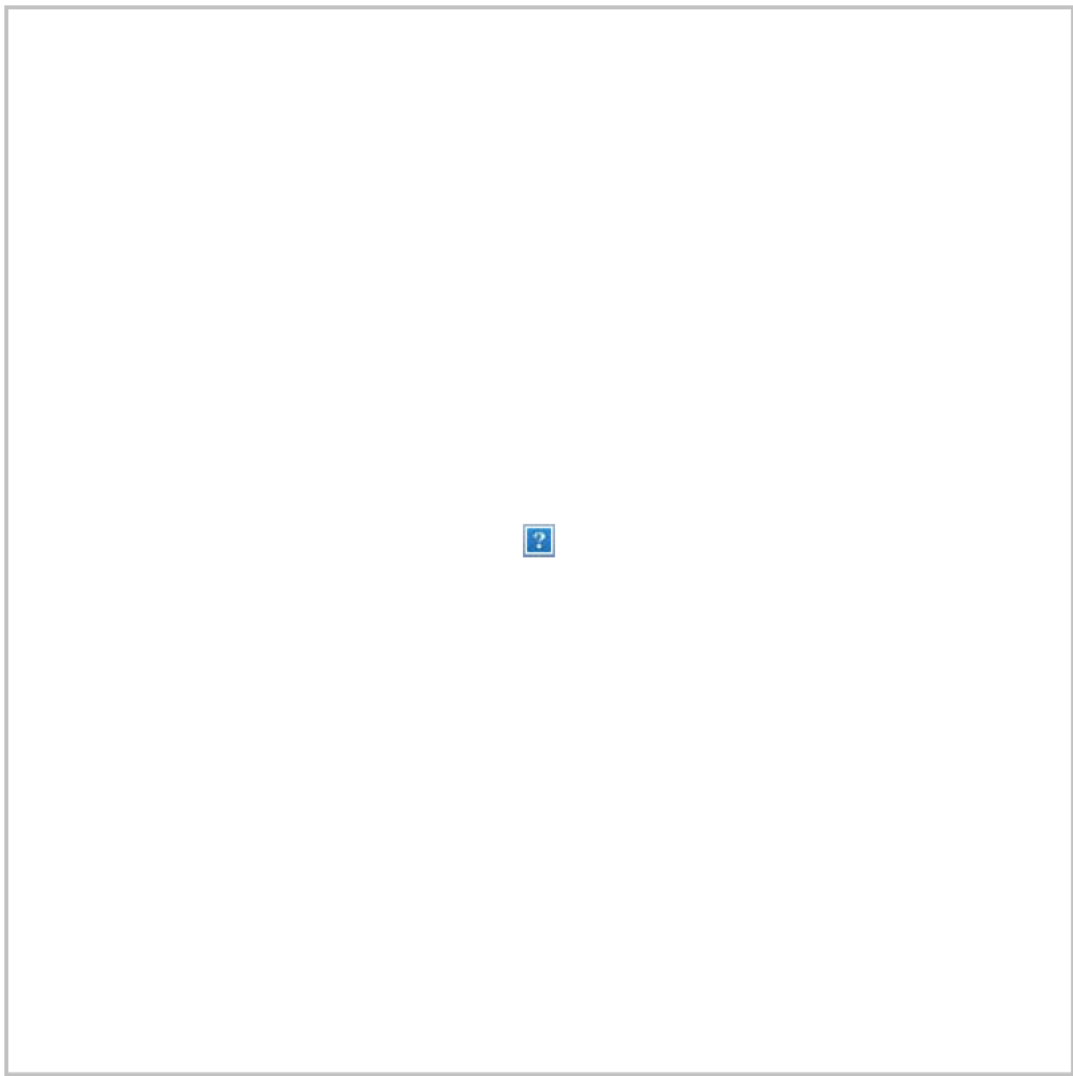


**The top five most talked about political topics on Facebook over the past month:** 1. Crime & Criminal Justice; 2. Religion; 3. Taxes; 4. Government Ethics; 5. Racial Issues.

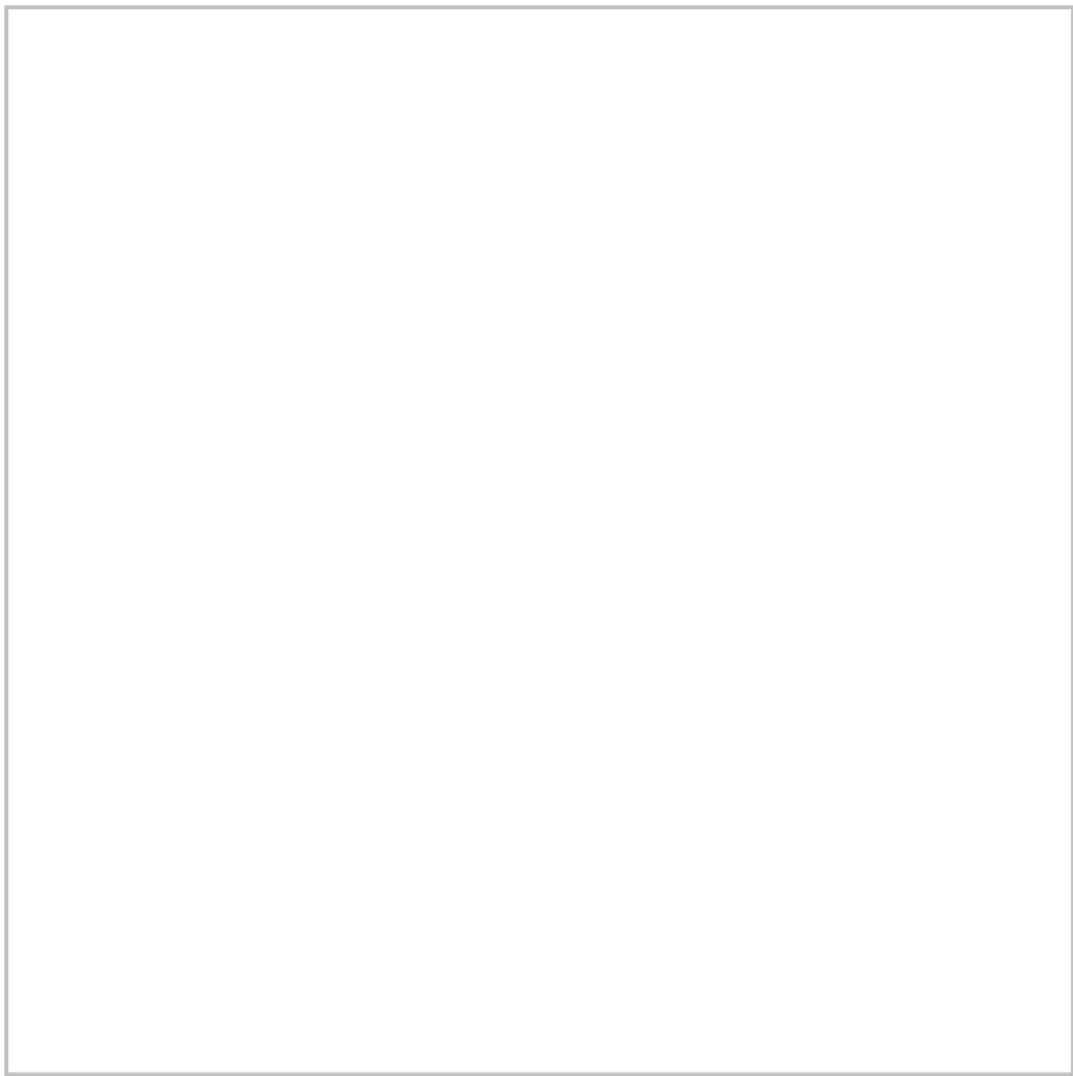
The Onion is on the lookout for late-breaking Trump news:



Coming soon to a Las Vegas billboard:

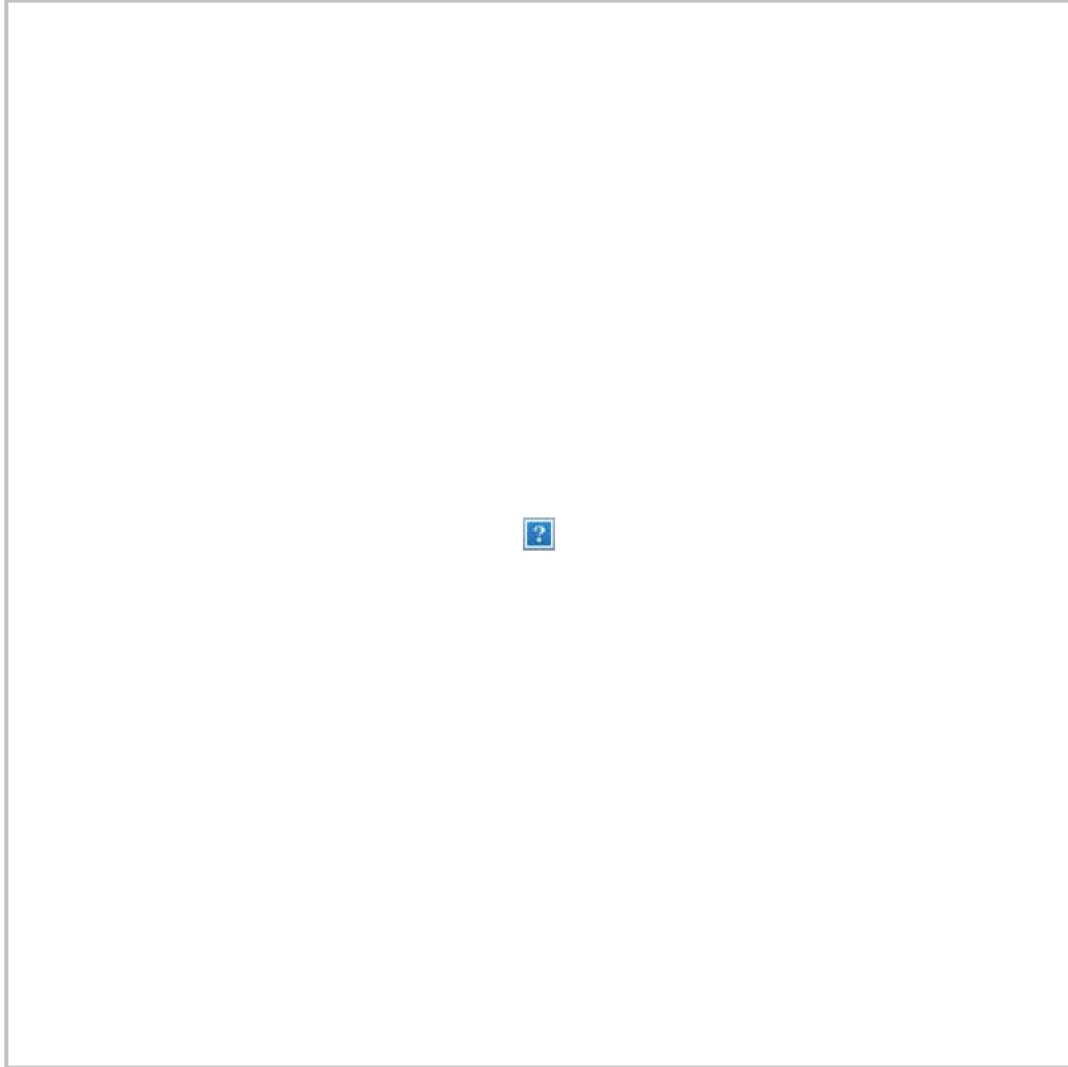


Fox's Sean Hannity and CNN's Brian Stelter went back-and-forth on the issue of voter fraud:

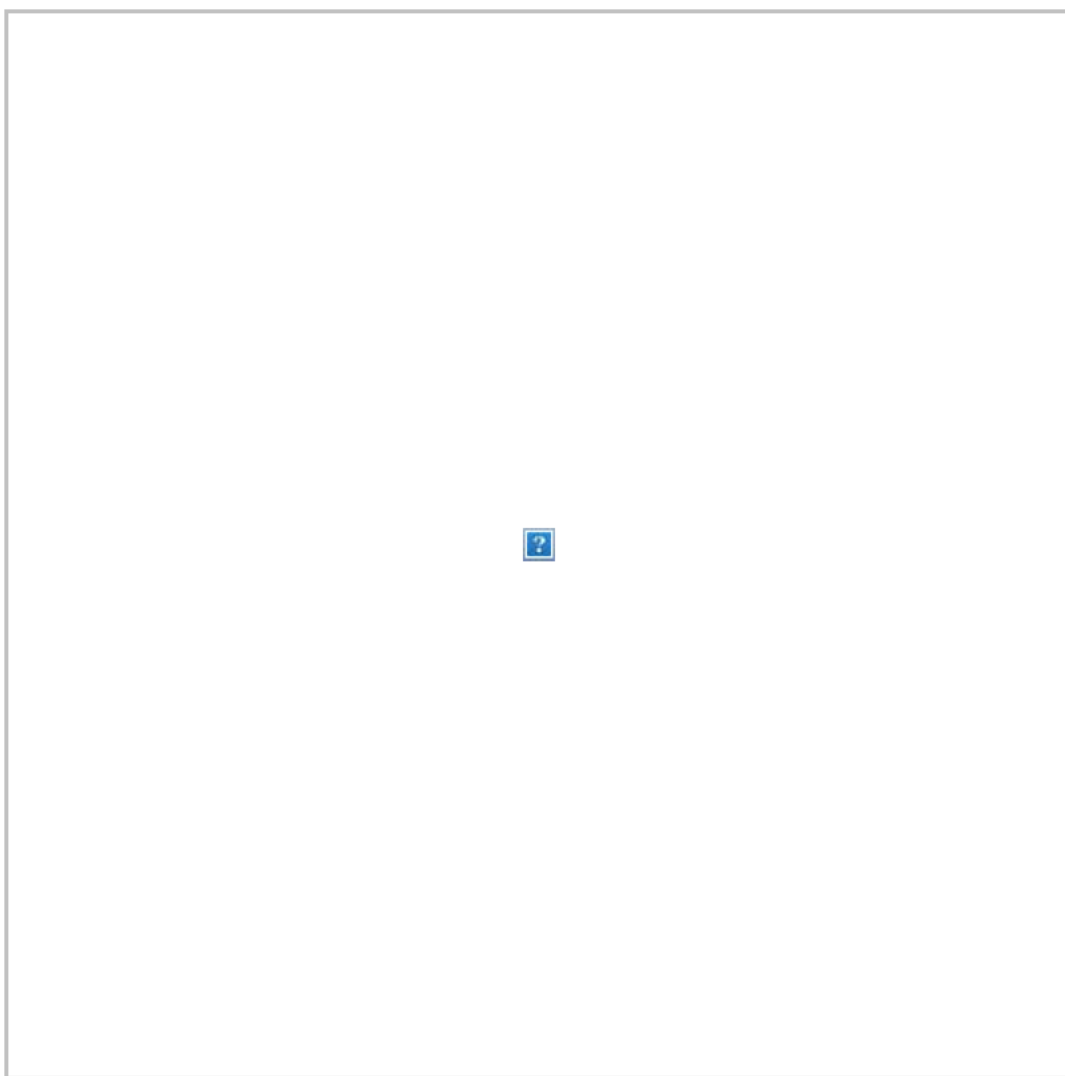


Mike Pence observed some of the damage from the firebombing in North Carolina and called it "an act of political terrorism":

[Vogue endorsed Clinton](#), making the first ever political endorsement in the magazine's history. "We understand that Clinton has not always been a perfect candidate, yet her fierce intelligence and considerable experience are reflected in policies and positions that are clear, sound and hopeful," the magazine's editors write.

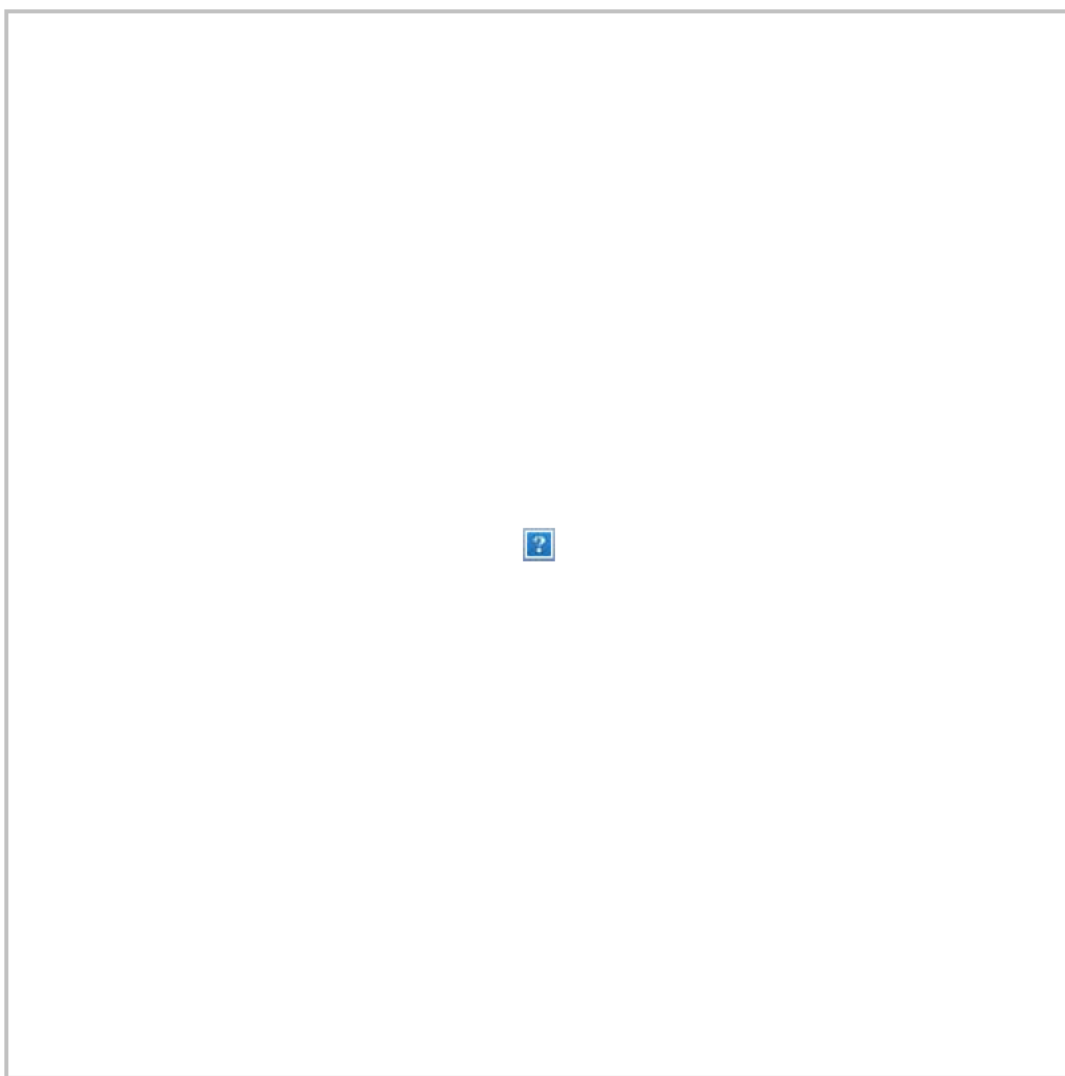


This is pretty funny:

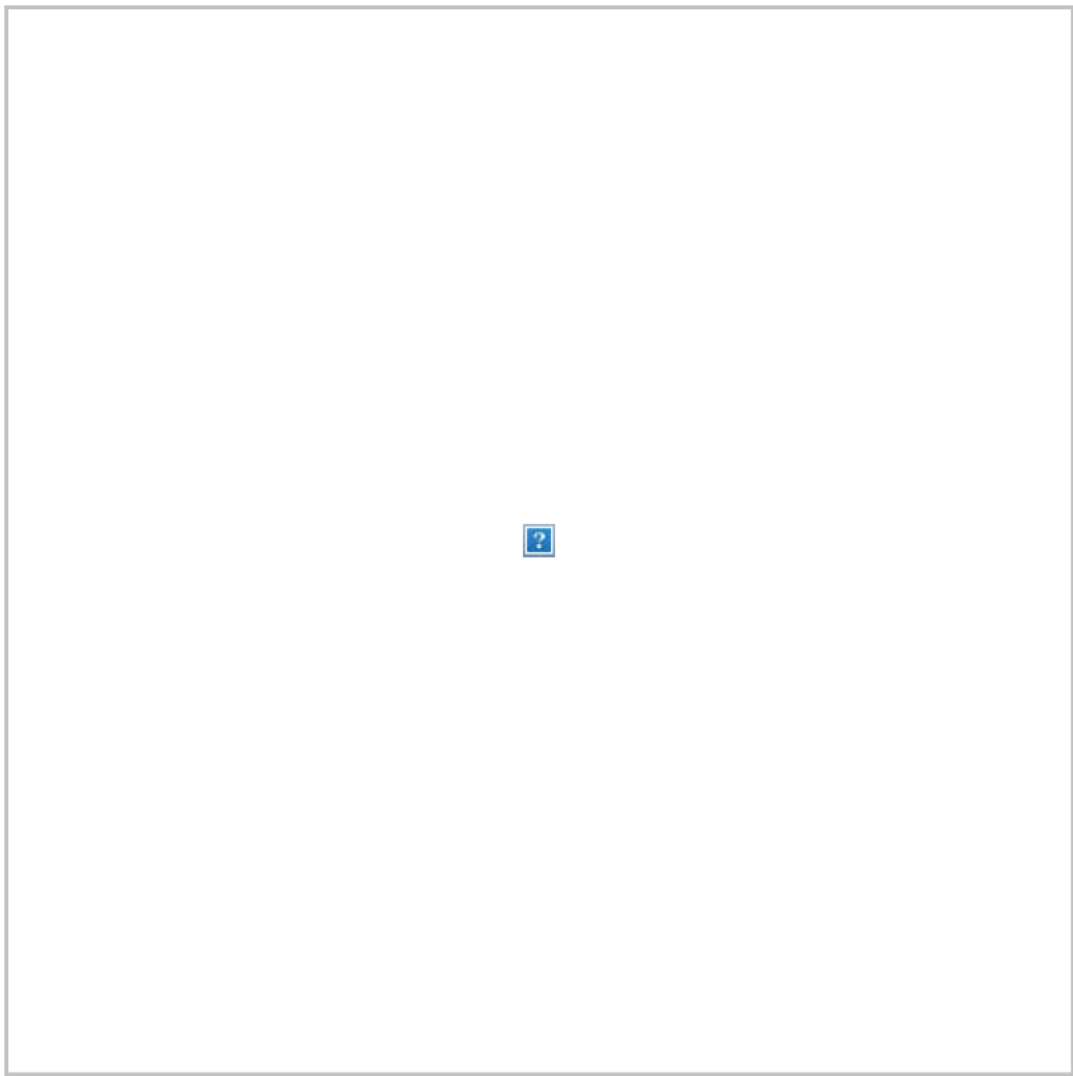


Wyclef Jean posted this photo:

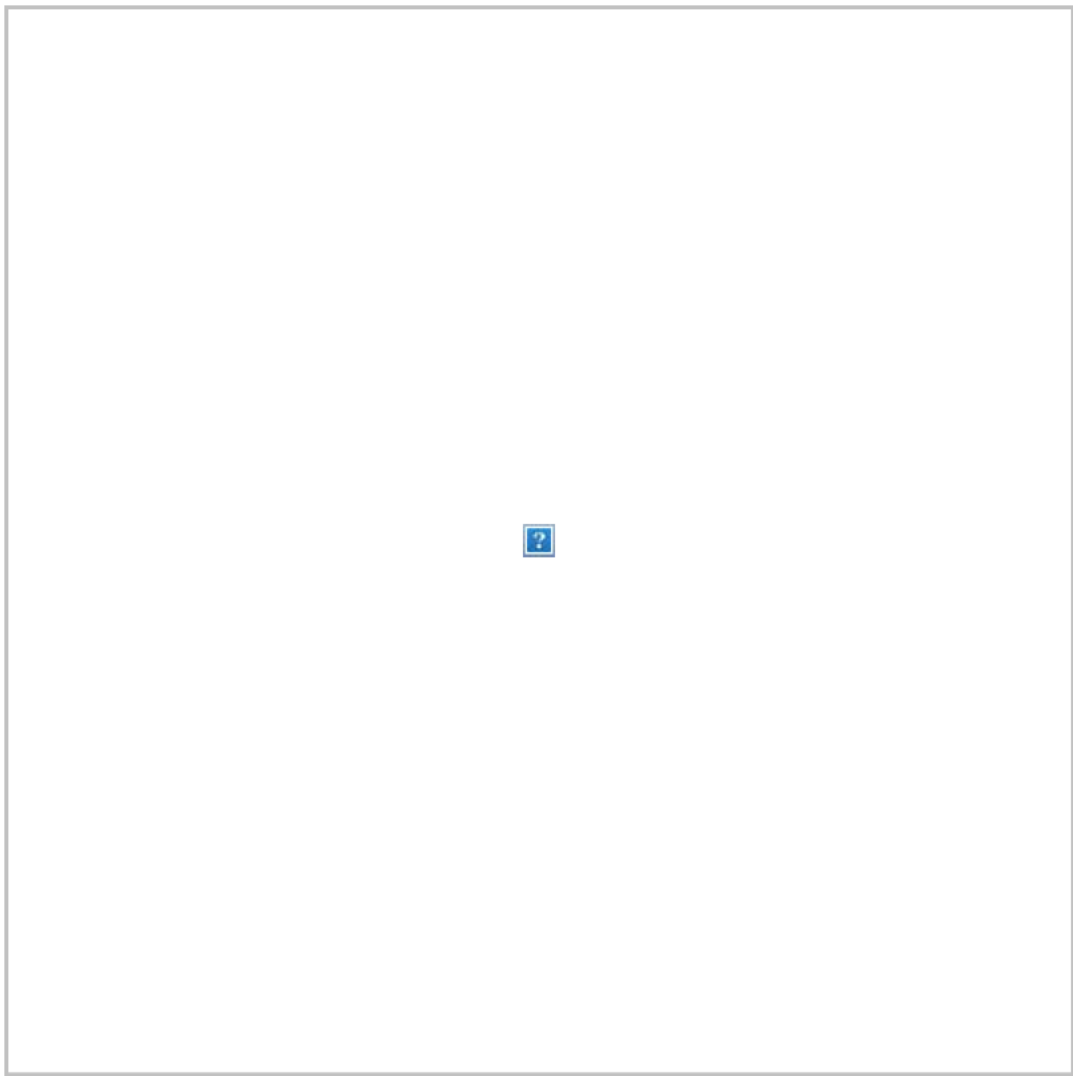




Debra Messing got a thank-you note from the White House:



Jason Chaffetz took this selfie while camping:



Kevin McCarthy went to a Dodgers game:



### GOOD READS FROM ELSEWHERE:

-- New York Times, "[David Letterman \(and His Beard\) Shop at Target These Days](#)," by Dave Itzkoff: "Why does David Letterman have a beard? To put it more precisely: Why did Mr. Letterman, after stepping down from CBS's 'Late Show' and a 33-year career ... spend the past year and a half cultivating a fleecy and prodigious mound of facial hair ...? Did he grow these imposing bristles to keep the world at bay while he withdrew into retirement?" Was it his way of saying he was no longer the man who had spent 6,000 evenings reading Top 10 lists and interviewing 20,000 guests? **Actually, he**

**explained, 'I just got tired of shaving every day, but then it became something else, and I'm not quite sure what it became.'**

In his dry Midwestern delivery, tinged with a new and unaccustomed element of wistfulness, he said: 'The beard is a good reminder to me that that was a different life. I'm hopeful that I will either find something else, or something else will be presented to me.' ... With years of vitality left, he has been trying, since his 'Late Show' farewell in May 2015, to figure out what his next step should be."

**-- National security reporter Walter Pincus prepared a list of pressing foreign policy questions that Trump and Clinton should answer in tonight's debate.** Some highlights from [his column for the Cipher Brief](#):

- **For Trump, on Russia:** "At the last debate, despite your being briefed by intelligence analysts and after Director of National Intelligence James Clapper publicly identified Russia as doing the hacking, you said [Clinton] 'doesn't know if it's the Russians doing the hacking,' and then added, 'Maybe there is no hacking.' Do you not trust the U.S. intelligence community determination ... that the Russians are behind the hacking of the [DNC] emails?"
- **For Clinton, on Syria:** "You are advocating a no-fly zone and safe zones. Define just what would be involved on the part of the U.S. and its allies – including forces in the air and on the ground [for protection] ... Would you seek congressional authorization to use American armed forces which will have to strike at Syrian government targets, something normally considered an act of war?"

**For Trump, on Syria:** On Oct. 9, you said “Syria is no longer Syria. Syria is Russia and it’s Iran.’ You also said Assad forces and the Russians in Syria were fighting ISIS, and implied if you were president you would no longer support any anti-Assad forces. Instead you would join with the Russians, Iranians and Assad regime in fighting ISIS. Would that be your policy for Syria? And if the Assad regime, supported by Russian and Iranian military forces, attempted to regain control over all of Syria, would you stand aside and let that happen?”

## HOT ON THE LEFT

## HOT ON THE RIGHT

**Two little known but influential Democratic operatives lost their jobs after edited footage from a video sting by conservative activist James O’Keefe found them entertaining “dark notions” about how to win elections. From Dave Weigel: “Footage from the video shows [Scott] Foval, a Wisconsin-based politico with a long resume, bragging about a litany of political dirty tricks. In the first video, he boasts of ‘conflict engagement in the lines of Trump rallies,’ takes credit for the violence that canceled a Trump rally at the University of Illinois in Chicago (and) **admits****

**he's paid 'mentally ill' people to start trouble."**

Robert Creamer also announced he is stepping down from the work he was doing for a progressive consulting group following release of the tape. On Tuesday night's episode of "Hannity," two campaign representatives said that the tapes "validated everything" Trump had said about the possible threat of the election being stolen.

#### **DAYBOOK:**

**On the campaign trail:** Trump and Clinton debate in Las Vegas. Tim Kaine speaks in Upper Arlington and Springfield, Ohio and Asheville, N.C.; Bernie Sanders rallies Clinton supporters in Reno, Nev. Pence speaks in Durango, Colo.

**At the White House:** Obama has no public events scheduled. Biden speaks about the Cancer Moonshot at the SAP Global CEO Summit in New York. Later, he travels to Boston to speak again about the project at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute.

**On Capitol Hill:** The Senate and House are out.

#### **QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

Obama mocked Trump for griping about a rigged election: "You start whining before the game's even over?"



## NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:

-- “A solidly summerlike day, with partly to mostly sunny skies and noticeable humidity,” the [Capital Weather Gang forecasts](#).

“Highs head for the mid-80s, with light winds from the west-southwest around 5-10 mph. The record highs to beat for the day? — 88 at DCA, 83 at Dulles, and 82 at BWI.”

-- The Wizards [beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 96-91](#).

-- The [Capitals beat the Colorado Avalanche 3-0](#)

-- A Richmond federal appeals court agreed to postpone oral arguments in a case over the Washington Redskins’ trademark registration, further delaying a long-running case that pits the NFL team against the U.S. patent office and Native Americans groups find the team’s name insulting. ([Ian Shapira](#))

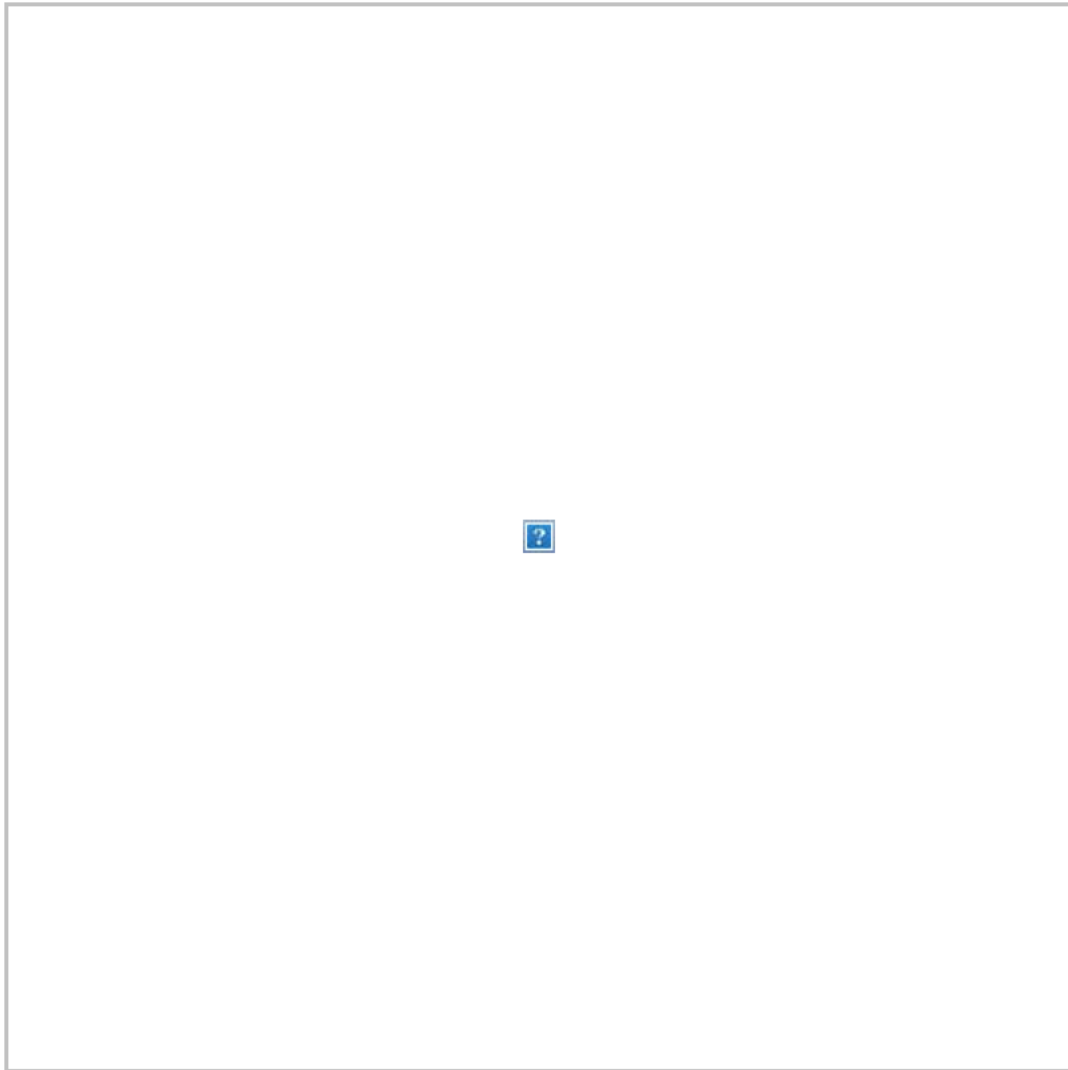
-- A high school senior was fatally stabbed on a D.C. Metrobus Tuesday evening, reportedly following a long-running dispute with another young woman over a cell phone. Police said the suspect has been taken into custody and charged. ([Peter Hermann](#))

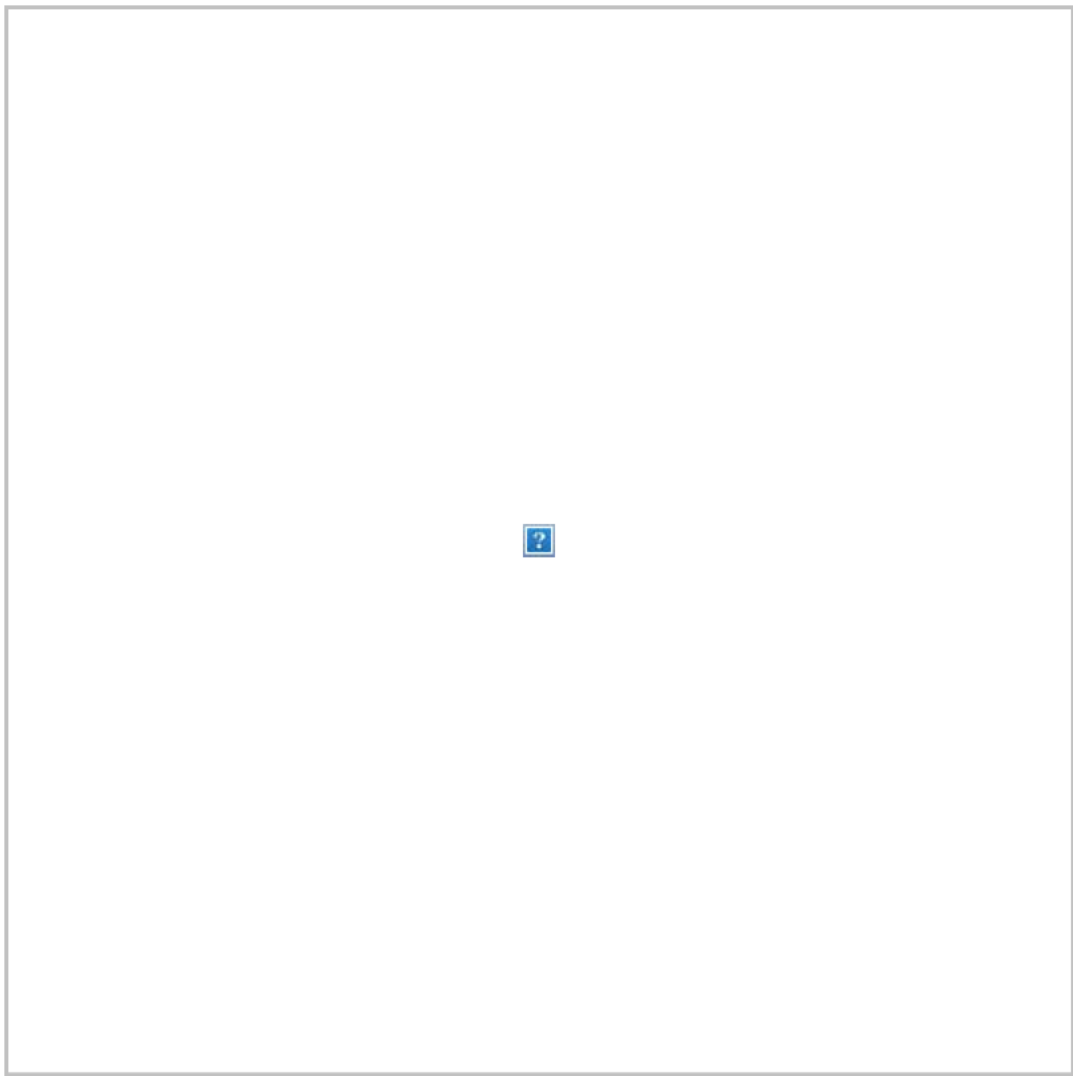
-- Marriott International announced plans to relocate its headquarters to downtown Bethesda, deciding to remain in Montgomery County after getting commitment on a \$62 million publicly funded initiative. ([Jonathan O'Connell](#))

## VIDEOS OF THE DAY:

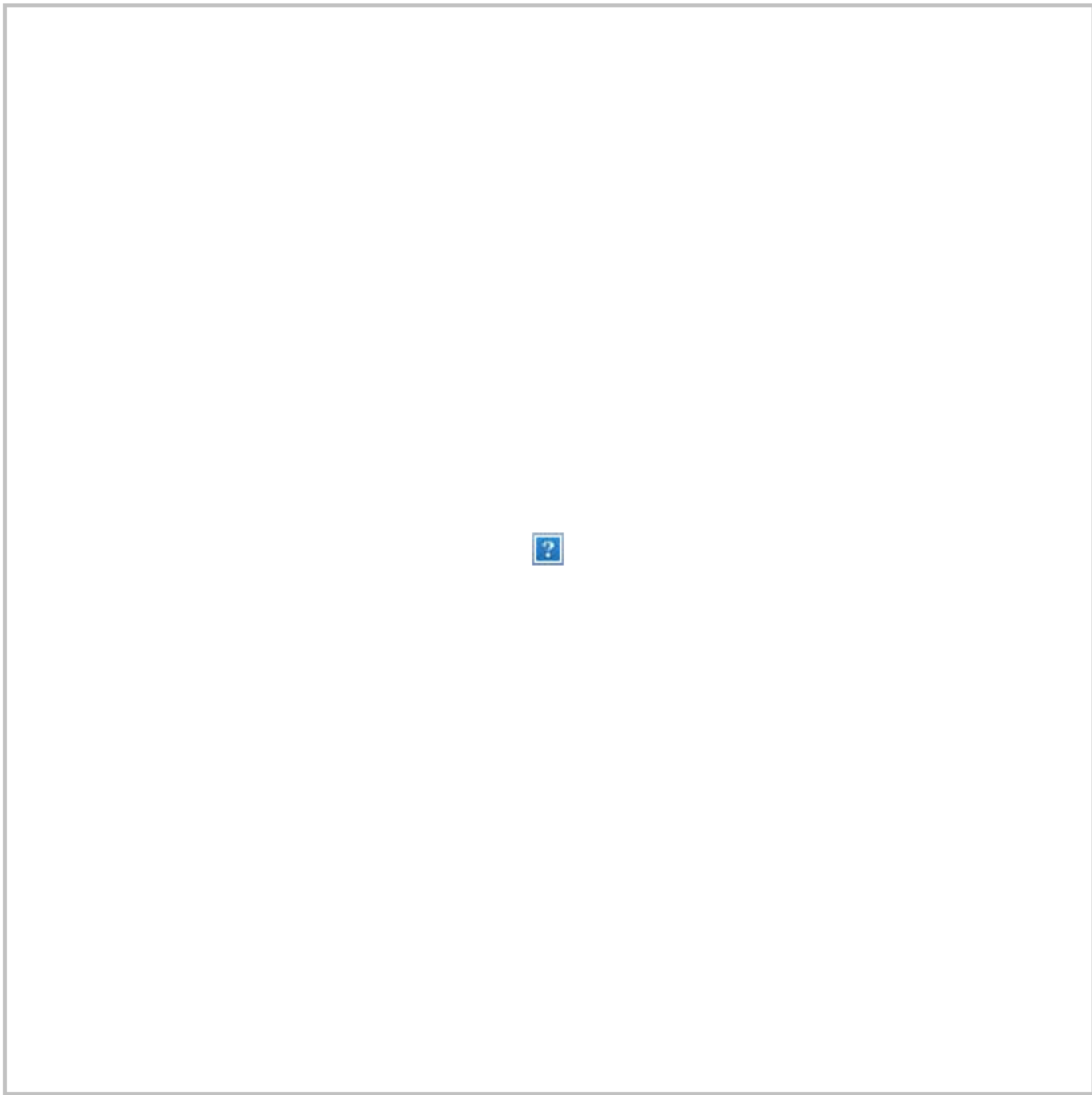


Tony Award-winning actress Laura Benanti [returned to “The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” last night](#) to reprise her [spot-on parody](#) of Melania Trump — this time with some uncomfortable Billy Bush references:



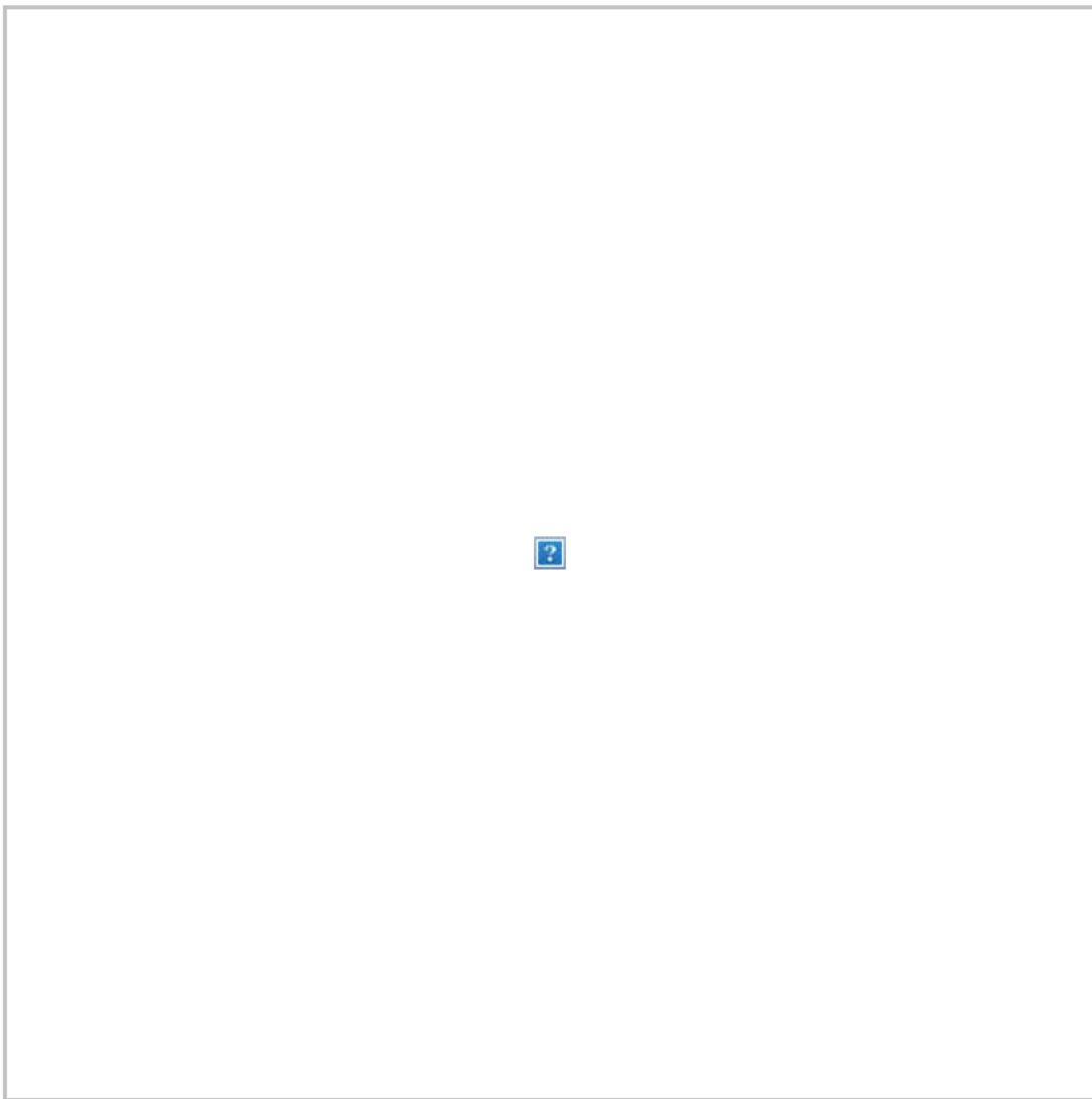


Watch as celebrities arrive at the White House for the Italian state dinner:



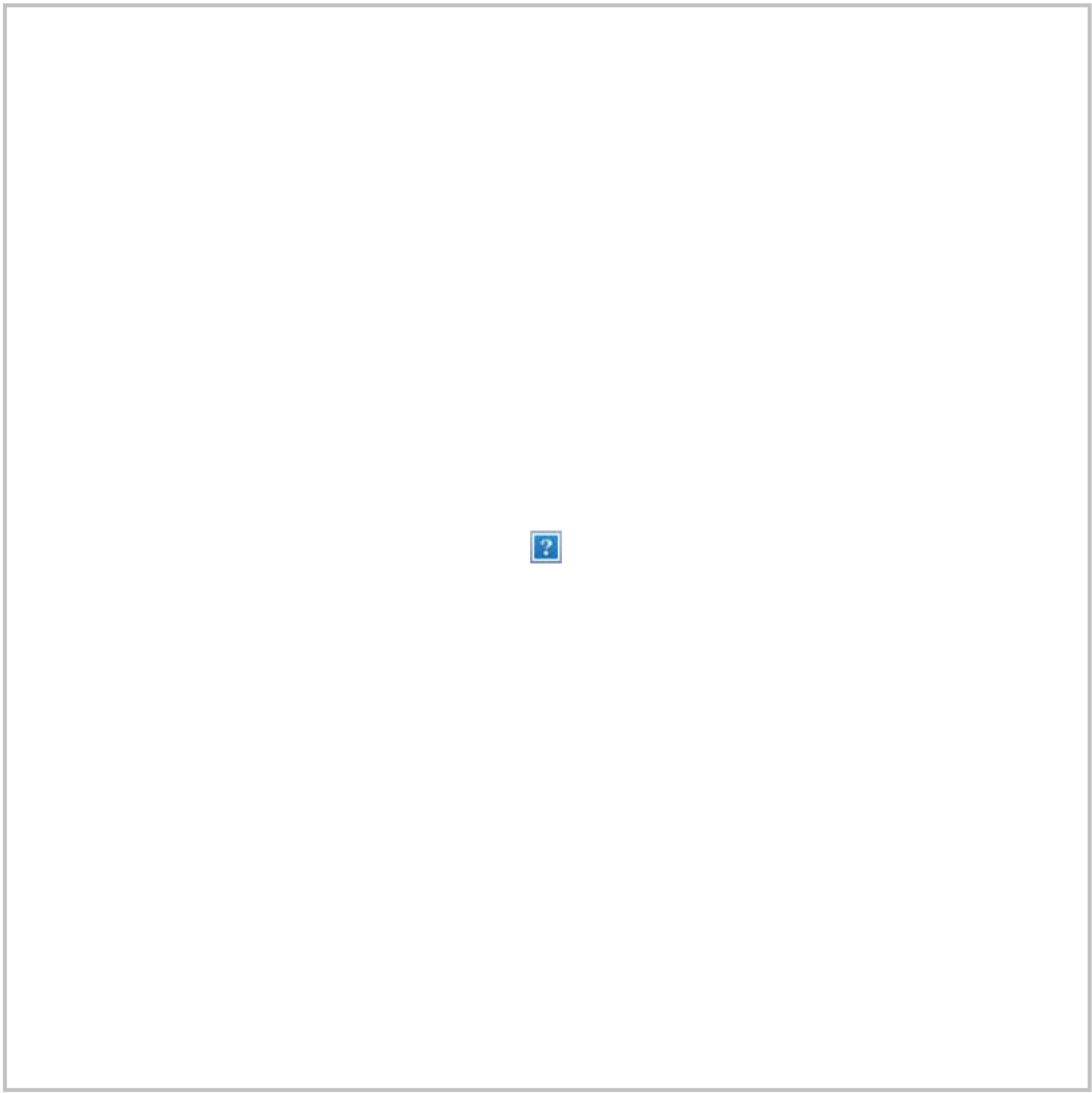
Celebrities arrive for Italian state dinner

"Dreamer" Juan Salazar, who came to the U.S. when he was seven, contemplates what's at stake in this election for him and his undocumented family members:



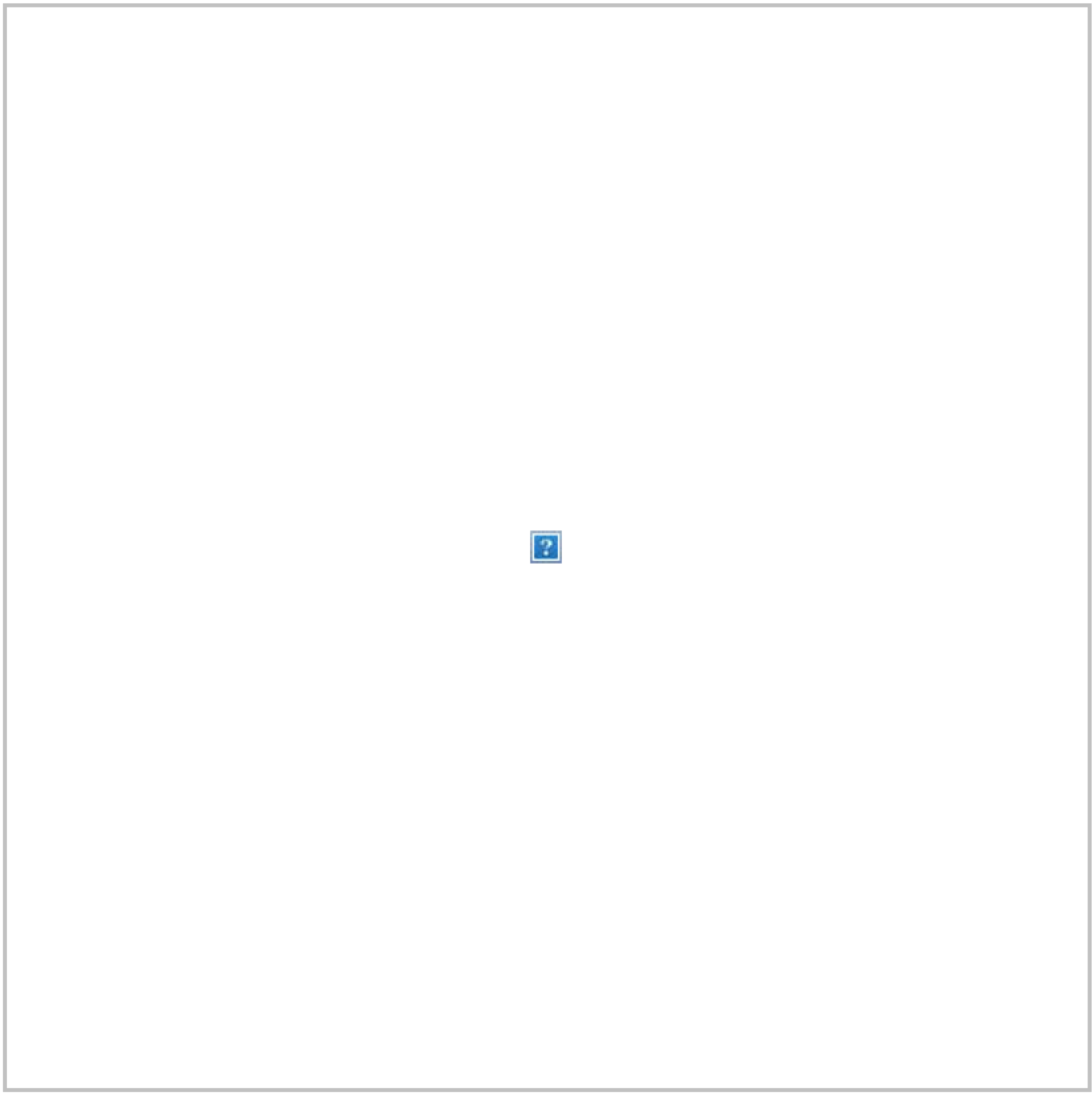
A family in fear: 'Us being separated...is just devastating'

Judy Shepard, whose son Matthew Shepard was murdered in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1998, because he was gay, cut a 1-minute spot for the Clinton Super PAC Priorities USA. “I know what can happen as the result of hate,” she says to camera. “So when I see the hate that Donald Trump has brought to his campaign for president, it terrifies me. ... Words have an influence, violence causes pain, hate can rip us apart. I know what can happen as the result of hate, and Donald Trump should never be our president.”



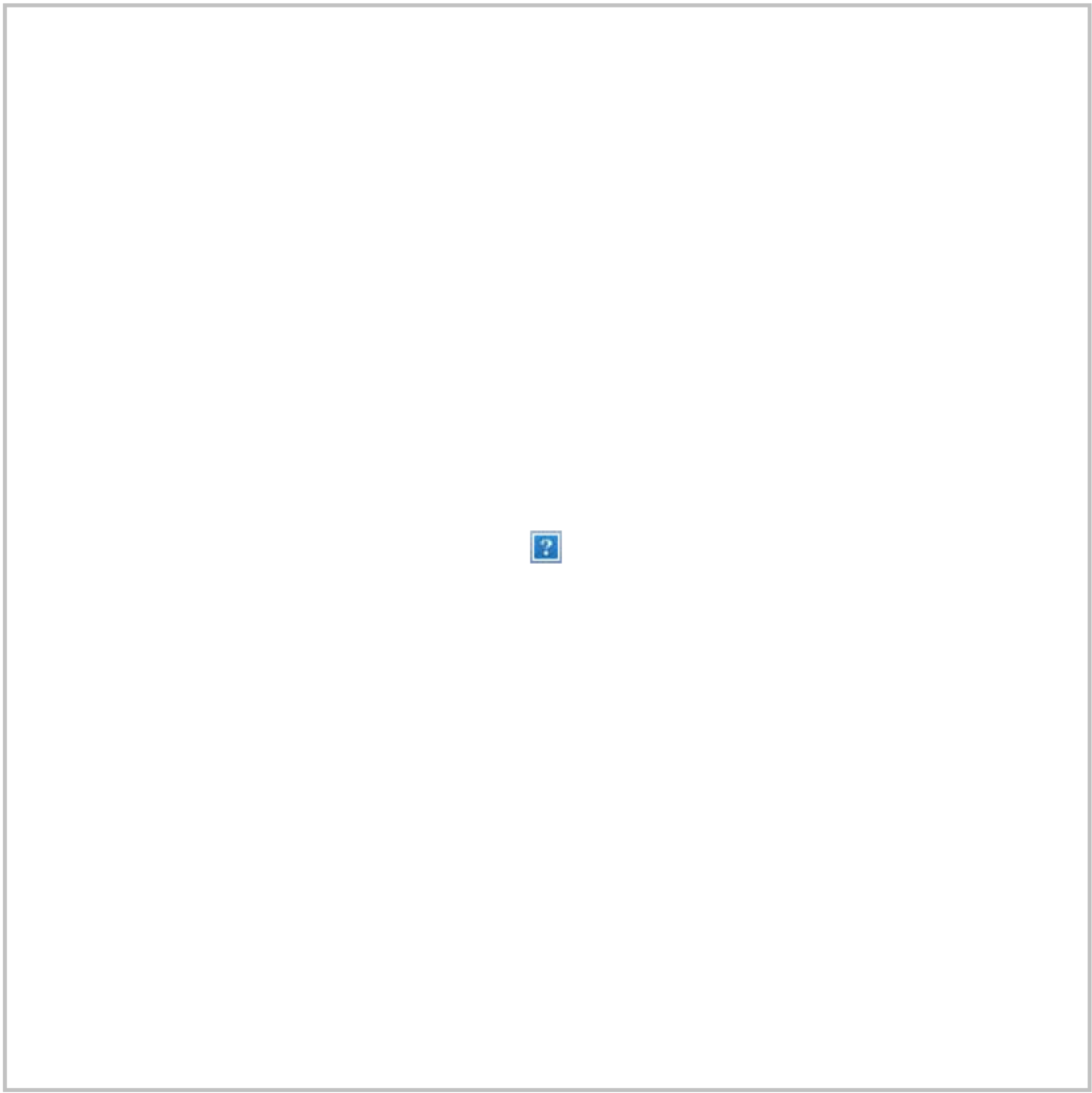
Hate

Bloomberg made an Ocean's Eleven-style explainer about whether the election is rigged:



Ocean's Election: Rigging the System, Vegas-Style

Kathy Griffin taped a video against Trump (warning: profanity):



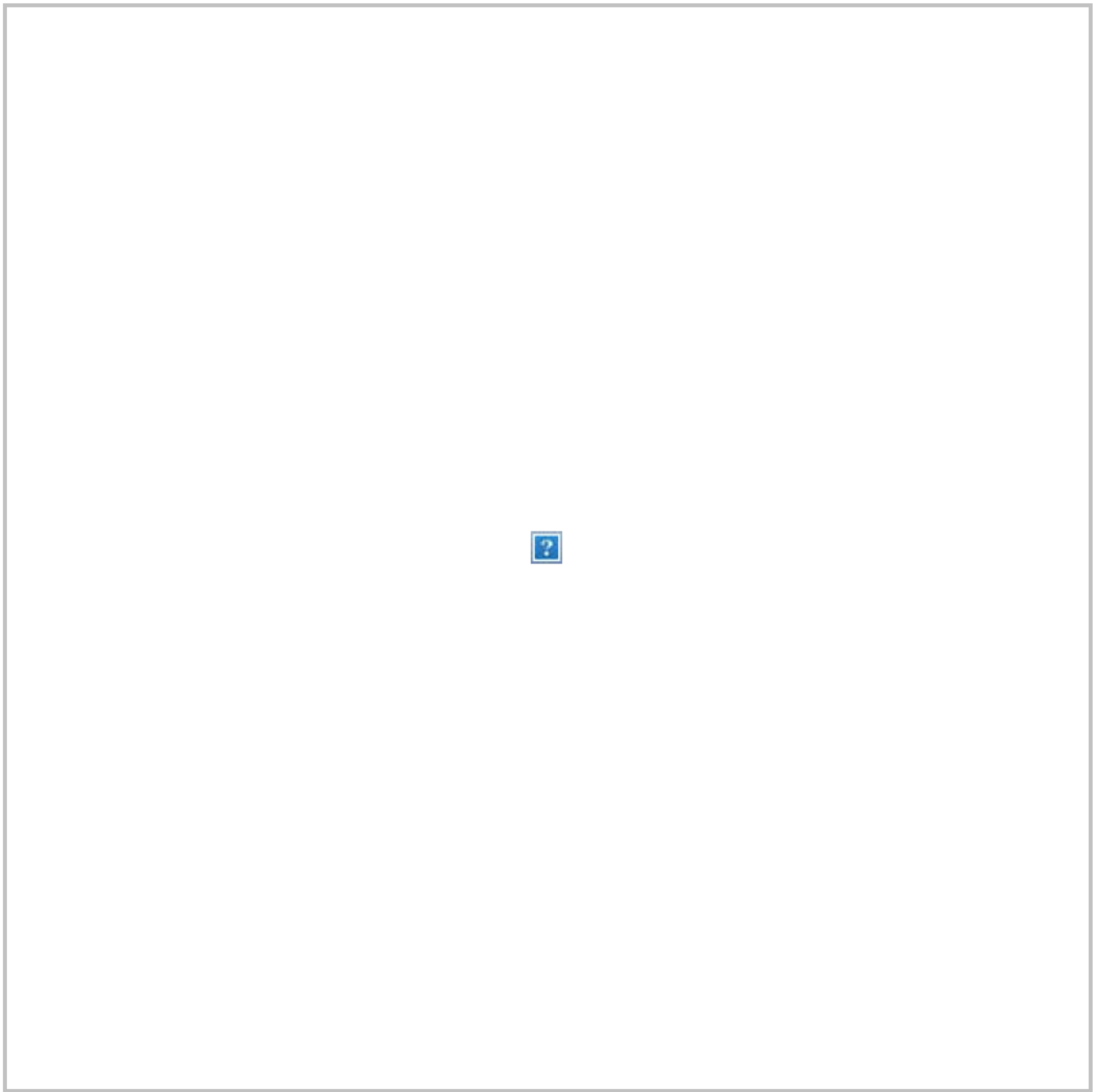
Mirrors | Kathy Griffin | Hillary Clinton

Viceland also used adult language in this Instagram video against Trump:



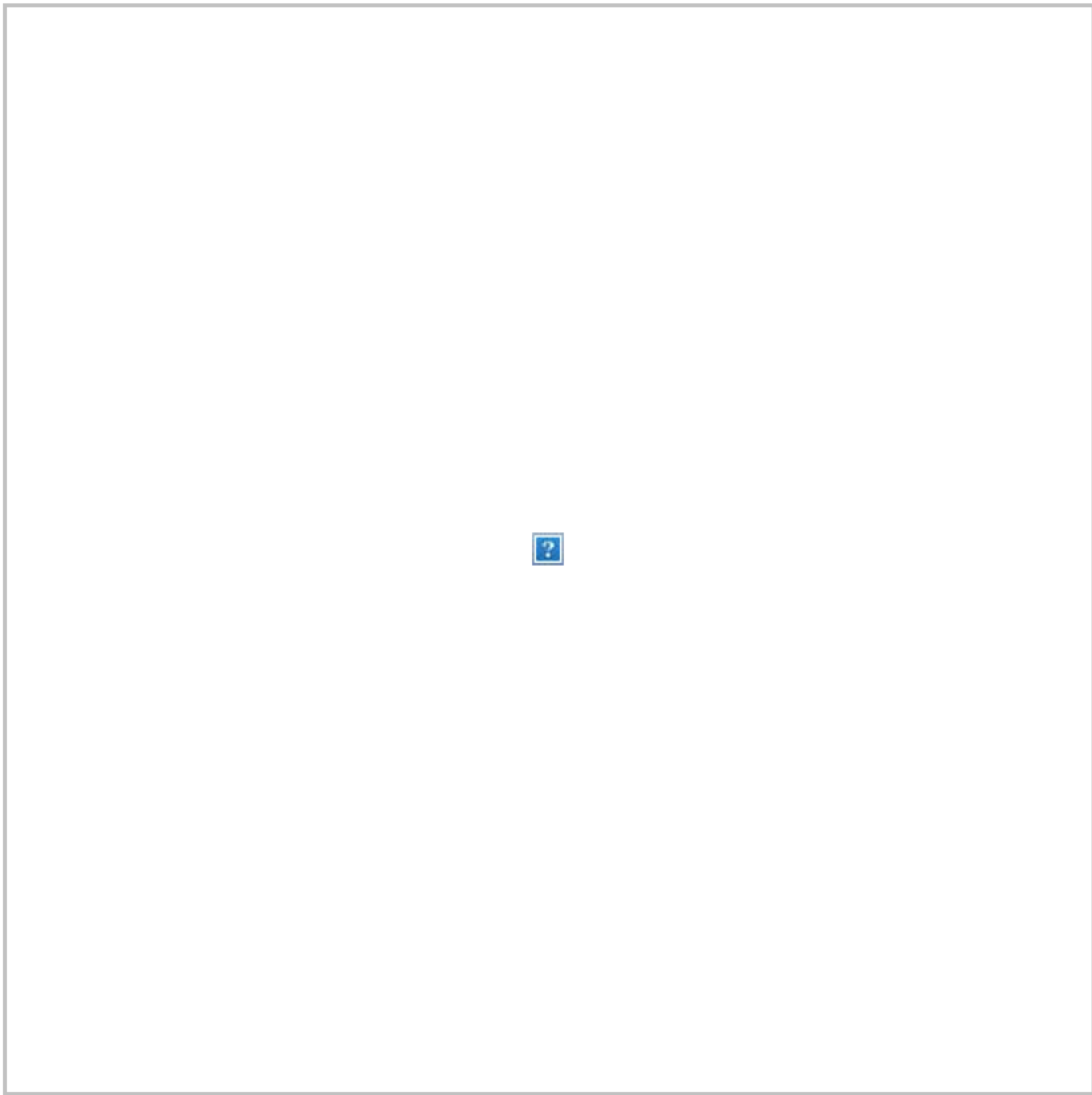
Compare some of what Clinton says in her stump speech to what she told Goldman Sachs bankers behind closed doors:





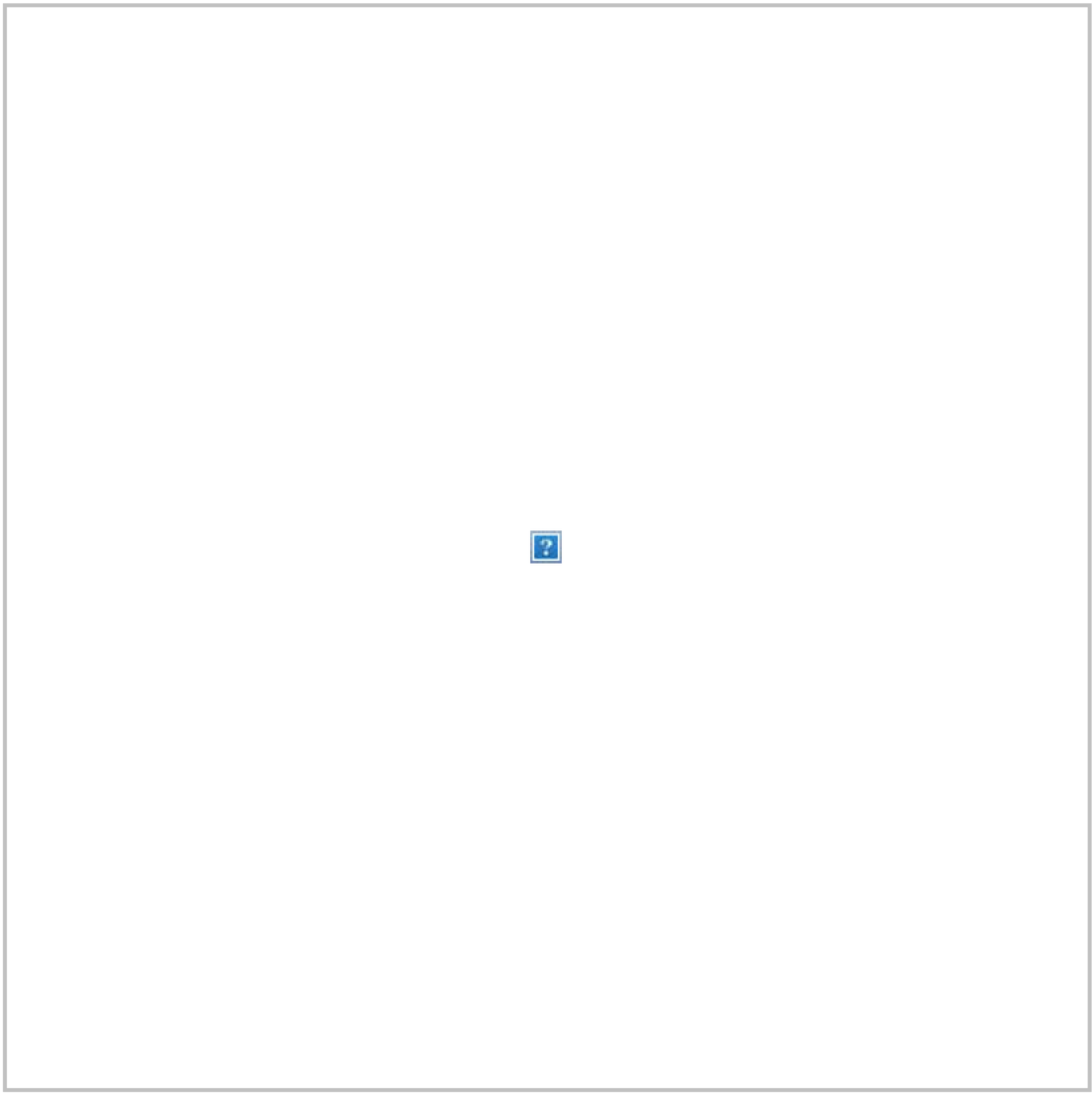
How some of Clinton's private speeches compare to her public stances

Watch Obama speak about Trump's "whining":



President Obama: "I'd invite Mr. Trump to stop whining..." (C-SPAN)

Finally, in this video, Canadians tell Americans why our country is already great:



Canadians 'tell America it's great'

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**Subject:** The Daily 202: The Supreme Court will be a focus of tonight's presidential debate  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 9:45:23 AM

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# The Daily 202



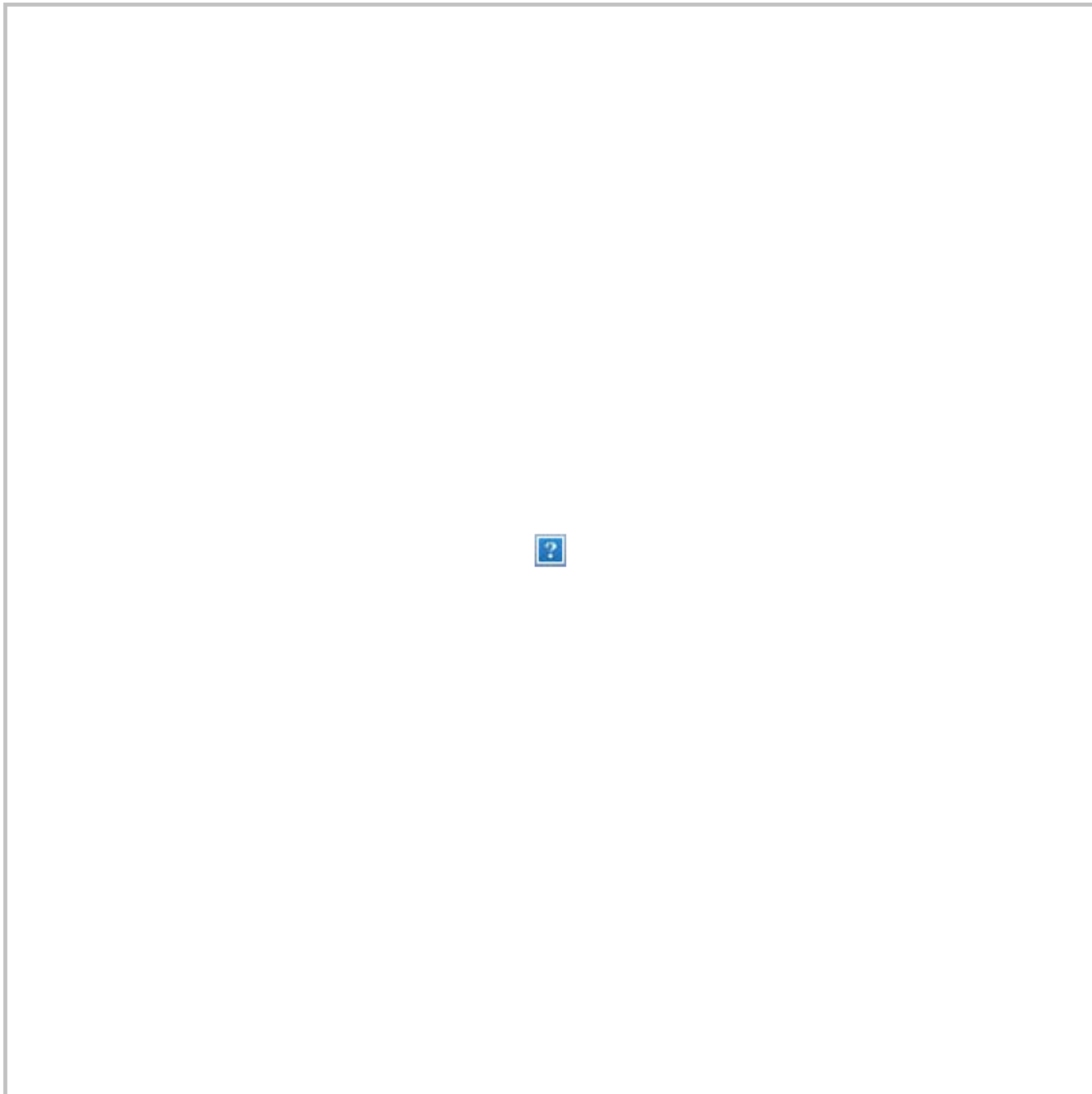
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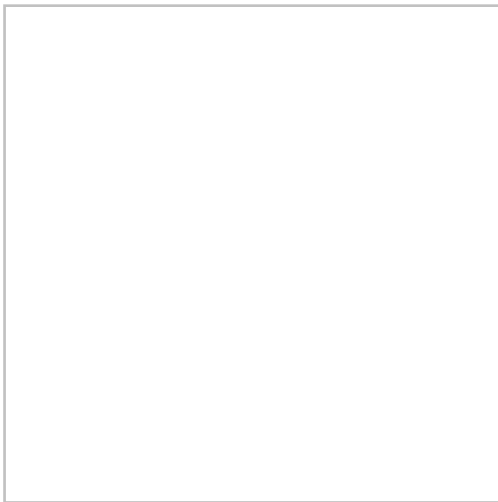


**The Supreme Court will be a focus of tonight's**

## presidential debate



Donald Trump's plane passes Hillary Clinton's plane at McCarran International Airport yesterday. The candidates have come to Las Vegas for their third and final debate. (Brendan Smialowski/AFP/Getty Images)



*With Breanne Deppisch*

**THE BIG IDEA: The Supreme Court is one of six main topics that will be covered during tonight's final debate at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.** The late Antonin Scalia's seat continues to sit empty. An evenly-divided court has begun its new term under a cloud of uncertainty. Assuming Hillary Clinton wins, it remains [unclear](#) whether Republicans will try to confirm Merrick Garland during the lame-duck session to prevent her from putting up someone who is younger and more liberal next year.

**The debate took on new significance this week when John McCain [boasted](#) during a radio interview that Republicans would automatically oppose whomever Clinton nominates.** "I promise you that we will be united against any Supreme Court nominee that Hillary Clinton, if she were president, would put up," the Arizona senator said. "I promise you!"

Attacked by his Democratic challenger, McCain's spokeswoman released a statement walking back his comment. The senator will "thoroughly examine the record of any Supreme Court nominee put

before the Senate,” she said. McCain then [awkwardly avoided](#) a local TV reporter who tried to follow up.

**Republicans, who have struggled to convince voters that they are capable of governing, talked a big game in years past about the need to be more than just “the party of no.” That messaging is gone now. The prospect of four more years in the wilderness suggests that they will move back toward unapologetic obstruction.**

Right now, however, they are in damage control mode. **Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, who is up for reelection in Iowa, promised yesterday to not automatically “stonewall” any Clinton pick.** “If that new president happens to be Hillary, we can’t just simply stonewall,” Grassley said on [a conference call with local press](#).

This is a very delicate balancing act. Vulnerable Republican incumbents are trying to convince people who are reluctantly voting for Clinton to support them by promising that they’ll be a check and balance on the excesses of the Clinton presidency. **One man’s “check and balance,” however, is another man’s “obstruction.” Regardless of how you play it, the bottom line is that Republicans are trying to save their majority by promising more gridlock.**

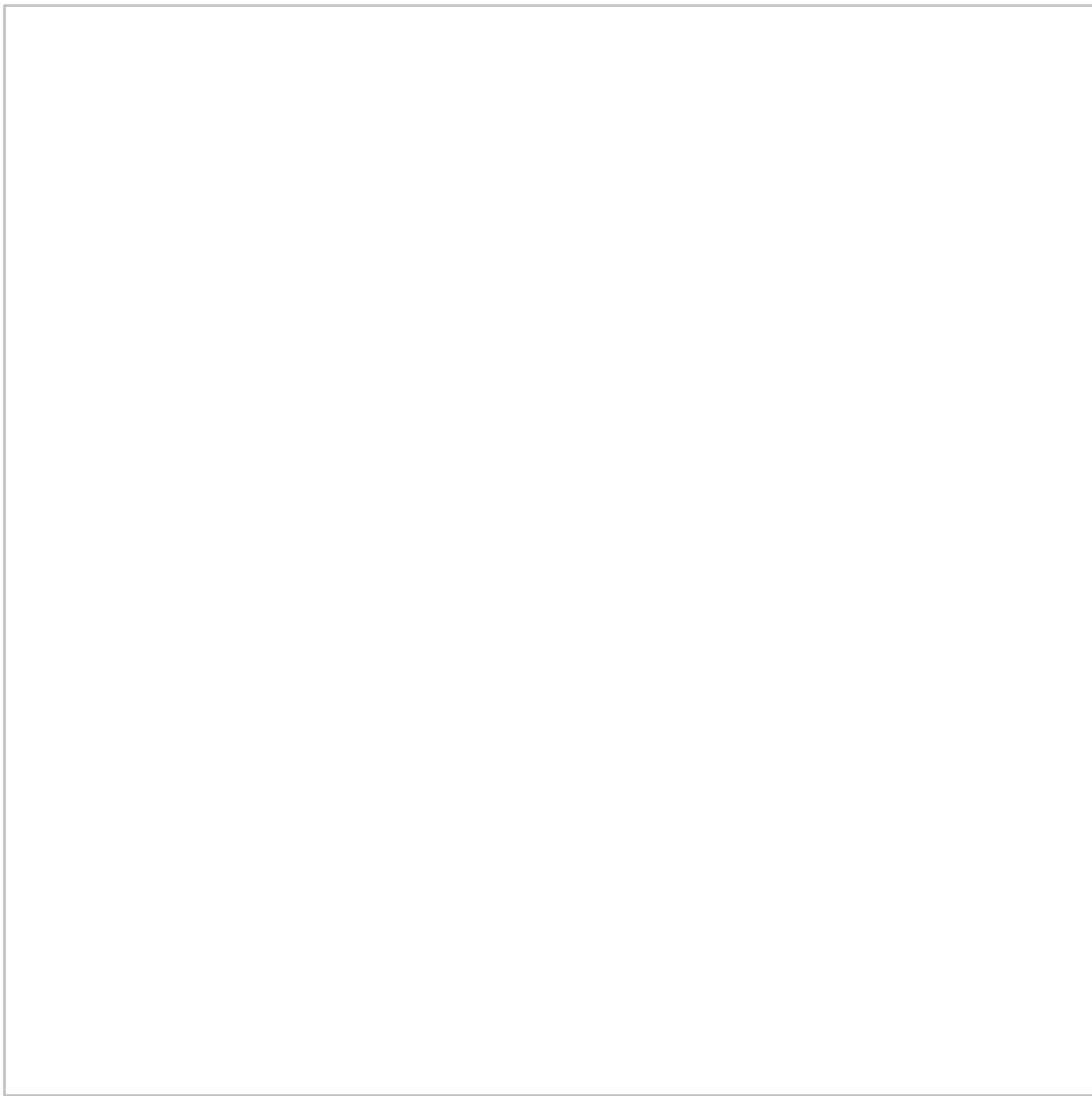
If Republicans hold the Senate, Mitch McConnell will control the floor schedule and Grassley will continue to have the Judiciary gavel. So [they technically could](#) do exactly what they have for the past nine months with Garland.

**Democrats are now favored to win the Senate majority. Even if they run the table, however, they'll only control around 53 seats.**

That is nowhere near filibuster proof. The question then becomes: Which Republicans would cross over to vote for a President Clinton's SCOTUS picks? Could a Majority Leader Chuck Schumer cobble together 60 votes? Or does he invoke the nuclear option and change the rules to allow Supreme Court nominees to be confirmed by a simple majority? **Going nuclear will probably be the easier course, both politically and procedurally**, especially because the Republican blockade of Garland has cost GOP leaders much of their moral standing to oppose such a gambit.

**Contrary to the will of the brilliant men who devised the Constitution, the Senate is increasingly becoming a majoritarian institution. Conservatives, who in principle should be alarmed by this trend, have shortsightedly accelerated it.**





A student standing in for Hillary is captured on the large monitor during a rehearsal for the debate last night at UNLV. (David Goldman/AP)

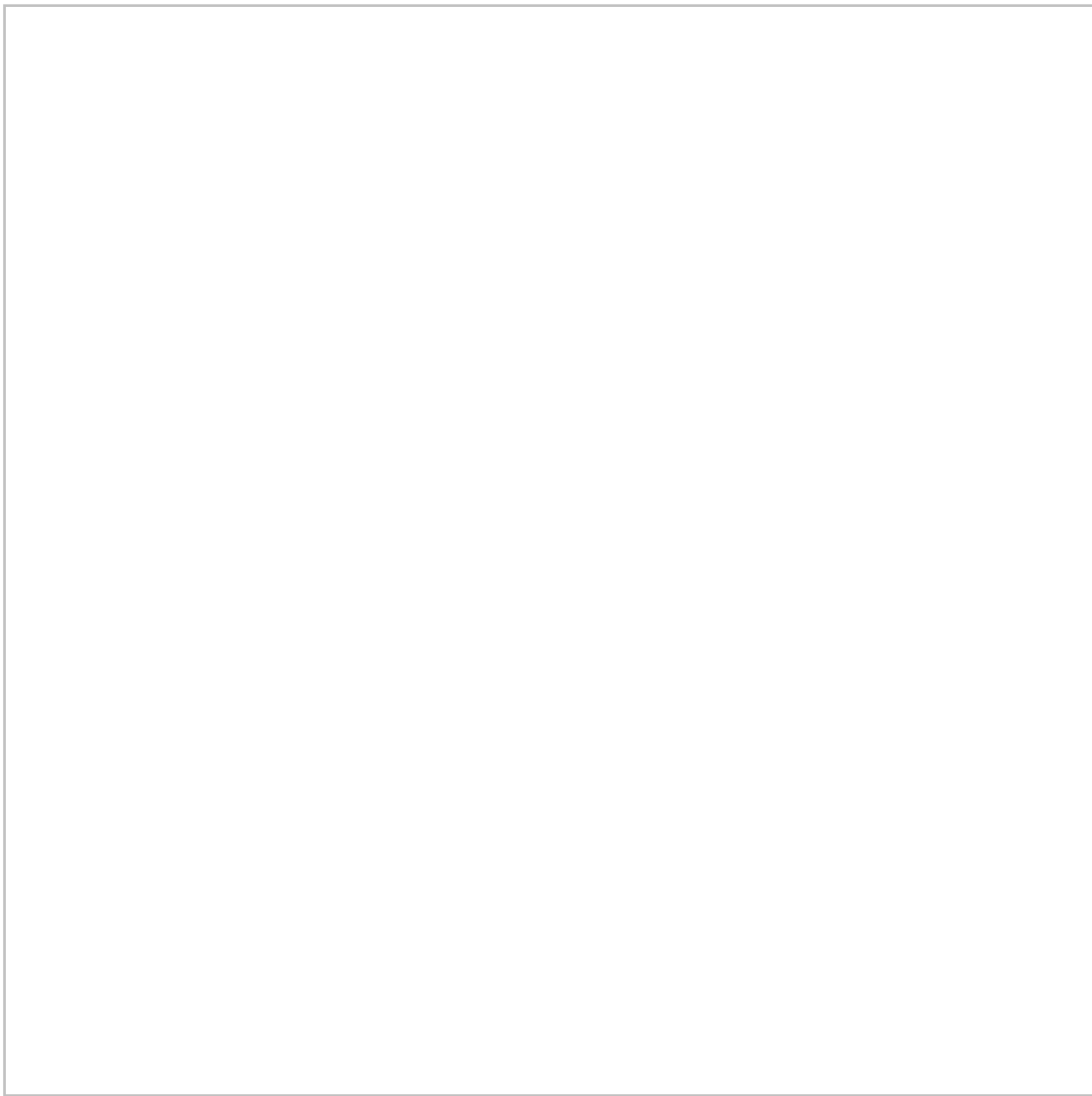
**-- There are two very important SCOTUS questions that the candidates have avoided giving direct answers to:**

**Will Clinton re-nominate Garland?** Watch for her to once again dodge on this. She's called him "extremely well qualified," and she's relying heavily on Barack Obama to get her across the finish line in November. The president sees getting Garland through during the lame-duck as a top priority and a legacy achievement, but Clinton privately wants to pick someone who is younger and more liberal than

the 63-year-old moderate.

**Will Trump commit to nominating only people who are on his list of 21 potential picks?**

Aides have said the list is definitive, but the reality TV star has suggested during interviews that he might go another direction. And he has a very long history of not being true to his word. A few of the people Trump floated have chastised him. Utah Sen. Mike Lee, on the second installment of Trump's list, subsequently called on the GOP nominee to drop out. And, amusingly, federal appellate court Judge Diane Sykes (who was in the first batch of names released by Trump) ruled earlier this month [against](#) Mike Pence. She said the Indiana governor cannot interfere with the distribution of federal funds to resettle Syrian refugees in his state.



Trump speaks in Grand Junction, Colorado. (George Frey/Getty)

**-- For many conservative intellectuals, stopping Clinton from appointing Scalia's replacement is no longer a good enough reason to support Trump.** Among the Republican politicians who have capitulated, such as Ted Cruz, holding the Scalia seat is a favorite talking point to justify supporting someone who they privately see as dangerously authoritarian. But 29 top conservative legal scholars have signed onto a letter arguing that it is not enough. The "Originalists against Trump" do not believe Trump would protect the Constitution. And they do not trust him to actually pick from his list of

21. “More importantly, we do not trust him to respect constitutional limits in the rest of his conduct in office, of which judicial nominations are only one part,” they write. The group understands that the alternative is Clinton. “Yet our country’s commitment to its Constitution is not so fragile that it can be undone by a single administration or a single court,” they conclude. ([Read the full letter here.](#))

Our [Robert Barnes notes](#) that the signatories include a Northwestern law professor who was one of the founders of the Federalist Society, Steven G. Calabresi; Post columnist George F. Will; and a well-regarded conservative law professor at New York University and the University of Chicago, Richard Epstein. **“The effort was organized by Duke University law professor Stephen E. Sachs and University of Chicago law professor William Baude, a pair of former clerks to Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.”**

**Something to ponder: Will Roberts vote for Trump?** He obviously wants to regain his working majority, but he also hails from Indiana – just like Gonzalo Curiel, the federal judge whom Trump leveled repeated, racially-loaded attacks against. We’ll never know...



Bill greets Melania before the start of the last debate. (Paul J. Richards/AFP/Getty Images)

### **MORE ON WHAT TO EXPECT IN VEGAS TONIGHT:**

-- The other five topics that will get covered from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Eastern are immigration, entitlements/debt, the economy, foreign policy and each candidate's “fitness” to serve as president.

-- Trump's scorched-earth strategy continues. He is bringing as his guests Obama’s estranged half-brother Malik and the mother

**of a Benghazi victim who has accused Clinton of “murdering” her son.** It is unclear whether the campaign will reveal more surprise guests today. Clinton is bringing billionaires Mark Cuban and Meg Whitman in an effort to [rattle Trump over his wealth](#). ([Jose DelReal](#))

**-- Clinton spent much of this week off the trail preparing for their final showdown, a strategy which Trump mocked at a Colorado rally.** He told supporters she was actually at home resting instead. "You know what the debate prep is? It's resting. It's lying down, going to sleep," he said. ([Jenna Johnson](#))

**-- The Clinton campaign has requested that Bill and Melania do not shake hands before tonight's debate.** Last time, Trump planned to parade three women who accused Clinton of sexual assault into the family seating area and force the former president to shake their hands as he crossed the room. ([Jeremy Peters and Maggie Haberman](#), The New York Times)



Chris Wallace moderated the first Republican primary debate in Aug. 2015 in Cleveland. (Aaron Josefczyk/Reuters)

-- **“Chris Wallace’s Debate Role Is a Bright Spot in a Dark Year for Fox,”** by the New York Times’s Michael Grynbaum: Chris is the first Fox journalist to take charge of a general election face-off. “It would be the most consequential night of Fox News’s year — if the network had not just endured the most traumatic period in its two-decade history. [For] the team of Fox anchors and producers (in Vegas) this week, Mr. Wallace’s star turn is a welcome source of pride. And, maybe, some relief. The selection of Mr. Wallace, a veteran broadcaster with a reputation for tough, mischief-making

questions, was particularly bolstering for Fox's news division, which has viewed itself as an unfairly maligned alternative to the network's stable of conservative commentators like Mr. Hannity and Bill O'Reilly."

-- **Politico's Glenn Thrush preemptively declares that "[Clinton will be on the defensive](#)":** "Trump's fitness to lead has, rightly, been the major focus of his conventionally lousy first debate and the national disgrace of his second one. But here's some good news for him! Trump has done such a masterful job of handing Clinton the election that the inevitable focus now is on her! America wants, demands, that final kick-the-tires test, as Barack Obama said of the process – and significant questions remain about her honesty, integrity, judgment and trustworthiness. ... Beatings, like bossa novas, have a predictable rhythm. **Trump's beating (however deserved or self-inflicted) has gone on for too long in terms of the cyclical attention span of modern media, and it's simply Hillary's turn.**"

-- **Trump's odds of turning around his campaign tonight are steep, the [Boston Globe's Matt Viser](#) posits:** "Clinton arrives in Las Vegas for the final debate like a poker player holding a full house, confident and careful. Trump is furiously raising his bet, acting as if he's holding a hot hand, when polls say all he's got is a pair of jacks."

-- **Republicans are praying that Trump does not once again take Clinton's bait, per the Wall Street Journal's [Michael Bender and Laura Meckler](#):** "Democrats want Clinton to articulate a positive vision for the country, rising above the allegations of sexual misconduct and dishonesty that have permeated this election year. ...

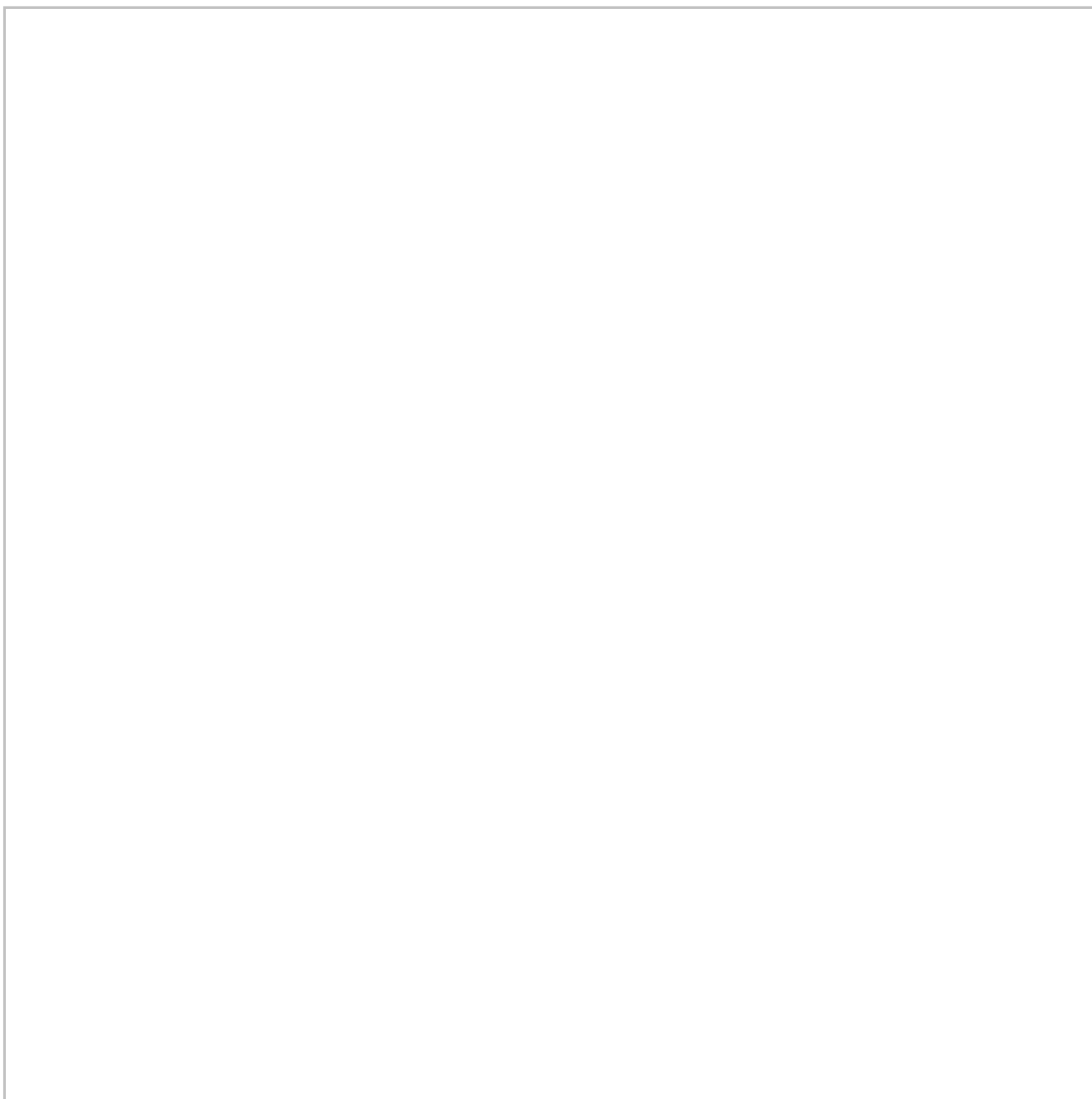


Republicans say Trump needs to focus on his popular anti-establishment message and avoid placing any more attention on controversies over his treatment of women or rifts with fellow Republicans. 'For once he needs to make this a race that's not just about him,' said GOP consultant and former Romney adviser Kevin Madden. 'Clinton wants this race to be a referendum on Trump and his lack of temperament, and every time she lays the bait he never disappoints in taking it.'"

Welcome to the Daily 202, **PowerPost's** morning newsletter.  
With contributions from Elise Viebeck ([@eliseviebeck](#)).

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**WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING:**



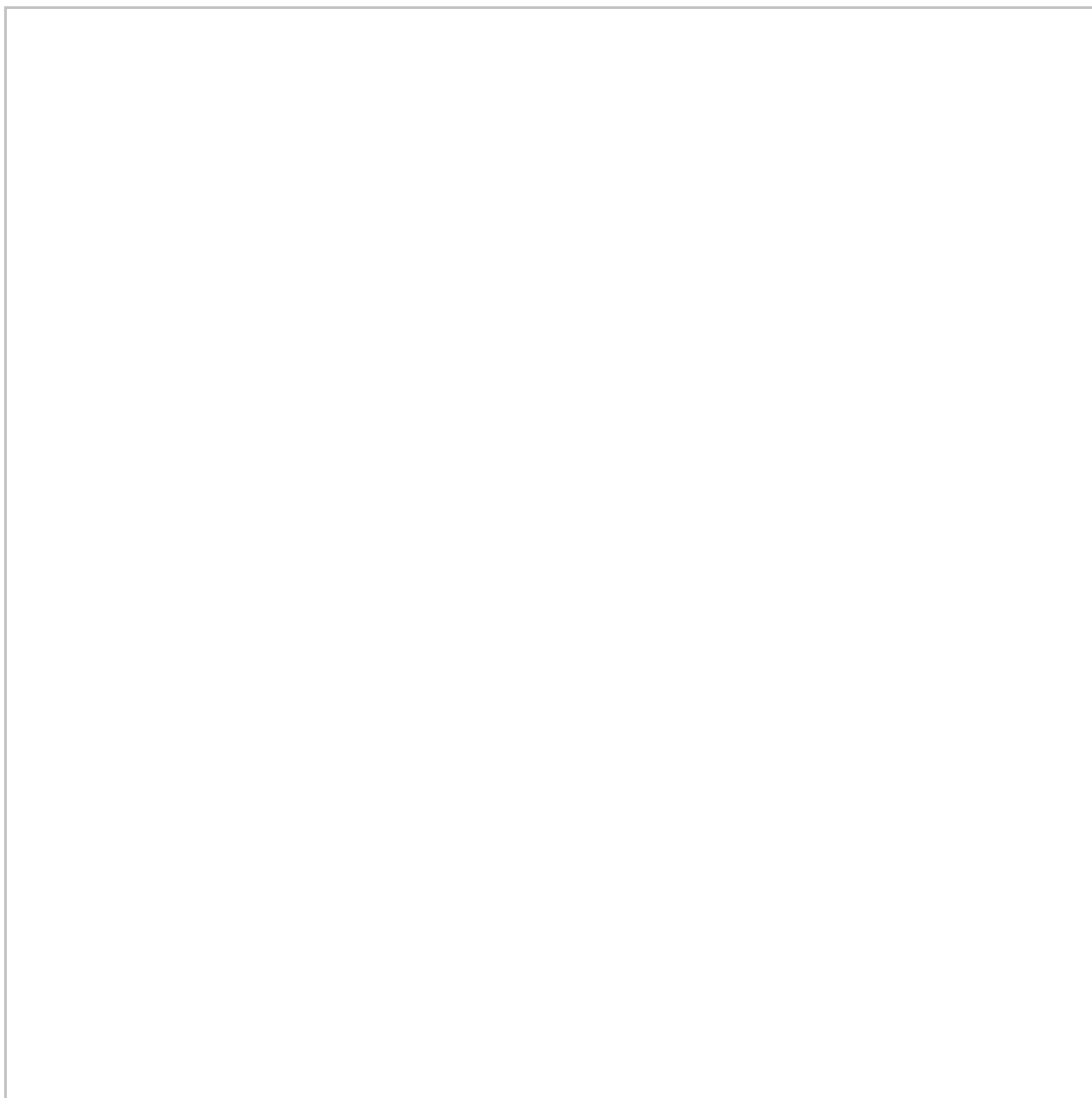
President Obama greets Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi at the White House.  
(EPA/Michael Reynolds)

**-- President Obama hosted his final state dinner, honoring Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and his wife at a celebratory -- yet nostalgic -- reception.** “If there was a collective emotion that defined the night it’d be a mix of joy and pain,” [Helena Andrews-Dyer and Emily Heil wrote](#). “Everyone involved in the Obamas’ last black tie gala felt it. From guest chef Mario Batali, who said that knowing this dinner is the last adds its own brand of pride and pressure, to the president himself, who called the swanky swan song ‘a bittersweet moment.’ Held in a tent on the South Lawn dripping with chandeliers

and dotted with mirrored tables to conjure up the Italian 'fresco' technique, the evening featured a stroll through the first lady's kitchen garden ... a four-course meal prepared by Batali and a performance by Gwen Stefani ... But despite the night's obvious symbolism as a denouement the dinner's guests probably took the opening lines of the president's traditional toast to heart: **'In the immortal words of a great Italian American, Yogi Berra, 'It ain't over 'till it's over.'"**

The Obamas rewarded many of their most loyal staffers with seats at the dinner. **Among the 380 guests were the first lady's hair stylist, makeup artist, and personal trainer...**

FLOTUS wore a custom rose-gold chain-mail gown from Atelier Versace. It was a slinky gown with an asymmetrical neckline that slithered like liquid metal down her torso and around her hips. "It was pure Hollywood glamour," [writes Fashion Critic Robin Givhan](#).



The Ecuadorian national flag flies outside their embassy in London today. (Alastair Grant/AP)

**-- Ecuador acknowledged that it “temporarily restricted” the Internet access of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange at its United Kingdom embassy after WikiLeaks posted John Podesta's emails.** A foreign ministry statement said that while it stands by its decision in 2012 to grant Assange asylum, it doesn’t interfere in foreign elections. The ministry didn’t specify the extent of the restrictions on Assange’s cyber access, saying only that the limitations wouldn’t affect WikiLeaks’s ability to carry out its journalistic activities. Do not forget: Assange is hiding out in the

embassy to avoid facing trial for alleged sexual assault. ([Nick Miroff](#))

**-- Marco Rubio urged Trump and the RNC to stop attacking Clinton over hacked emails published by Wikileaks:** "As our intelligence agencies have said, these leaks are an effort by a foreign government to interfere with our electoral process and I will not indulge it," Rubio told [ABC News's Jon Karl in an interview](#). "Further, I want to warn my fellow Republicans who may want to capitalize politically on these leaks: Today it is the Democrats. Tomorrow it could be us."

**-- Speaking of insecure email servers, Trump lives in a glass house.** From Mother Jones' [Joseph Cox](#): "A researcher has found that a number of email servers linked to [Trump's] hotel and others businesses are running horribly out of date software which receive no security patches, and are lacking other precautions for keeping hackers out." A number of mail servers for TrumpOrg.com, a domain registered to The Trump Organization, are using end-of-life software, including the operating system Windows Server 2003 and IIS 6.0. "Running outdated software and operating systems for your publicly facing email infrastructure is problematic, especially when you're a high profile organisation," said security architect Kevin Beaumont. "During an election where cybersecurity is such a big issue, I was a little amazed at what I saw."



Filipino villagers gather as they prepare for a super typhoon that may hit their village. (EPA)

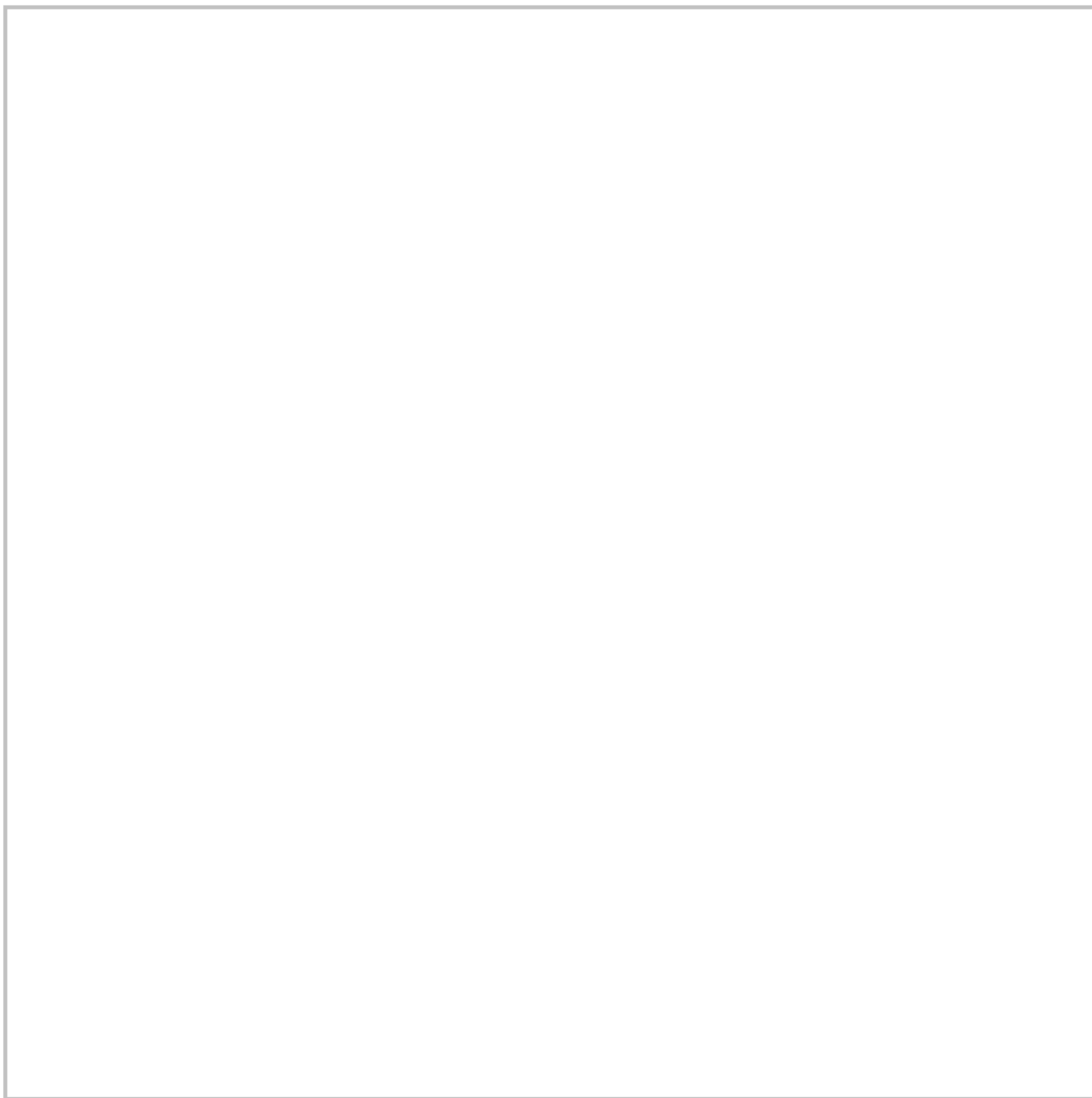
### **GET SMART FAST:**

1. **A dangerous super typhoon is spinning like a table saw towards the Philippines, barreling down with Category-5 level winds of 160 mph.** Local emergency managers are warning storm surge could exceed 15 feet when it makes landfall. The storm's arrival comes just days after *another* typhoon struck the country, killing at least two people. ([Angela Fritz](#))

2. **A former Arkansas judge has been arrested and accused of giving lenient sentences to male defendants in exchange for sexual favors – soliciting at least nine men between the ages of 16 and 22 for what he referred to as “community service.”** ([Kristine Guerra](#))
3. **A magistrate judge delivered a victory to a transgender high school student in Illinois, allowing her to continue to use a bathroom and locker room corresponding with her gender identity.** ([Derek Hawkins](#))
4. **More police officers have been killed in the line of duty so far this year than all of last year combined.** But federal statistics also show that being a law enforcement officer has continually gotten safer over the last four decades. Since the 1970s, the death toll for cops decreased by more than half. ([Mark Berman](#))
5. **Warring parties in Yemen agreed to a 72-hour ceasefire.** The U.N. hopes the temporary truce will lead to a “permanent and lasting end” to the conflict. ([AP](#))
6. **A new lawsuit accuses public schools in Flint, Mich., of failing to meet obligations to screen children for lead exposure.** The complaint alleges that the city’s public school system has also failed to provide critical services and interventions to counter the effects of lead exposure. ([Emma Brown](#))
7. **The University of Maryland agreed to hire more staff to address sexual assault on campus, after reports that a faculty shortage was slowing down open investigations. Student government leaders proposed a student fee to help fund the office.** ([Susan Svrluga](#))

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8. **Samsung is setting up pop-up phone exchange booths at airports across the country, allowing busy travelers to trade in Galaxy 7 smartphones that were recently banned from all U.S. flights.** But it's unclear what devices the kiosks will offer in replacement – and, as [Hayley Tsukayama](#) notes, a crowded airport is probably not the ideal place to make such a major purchase.
  9. **The Transylvania castle that inspired the “Dracula” novels will be open to two brave souls on Halloween night, thanks to an Airbnb contest.** Winners will spend the night in the 14th century digs, eating by candlelight and sleeping in velvet-lined coffins. ([Cleve R. Wootson Jr.](#))





Members of the Iraqi Special Operations Forces outside Mosul today. (Azad Lashkari/Reuters)

-- A dispatch from the front lines --> [\*\*“Evidence of a ‘difficult fight’ ahead as forces move toward ISIS-held Mosul,”\*\*](#) by **Kareem Fahim and Loveday Morris**: “To defend a few miles of unremarkable road in northern Iraq, flanked by farmland, the occasional factory and flyspeck hamlets and villages, the Islamic State militants seemed to spare no effort. They loaded a Volkswagen with explosives and secreted remote-detonated bombs ... They burned tires and dug large tunnels in houses ... The arsenal ultimately failed to protect the militants. But it seemed to slow down the action, tying up a large

contingent of Iraqi soldiers as they tried to clear the road and villages of booby traps, a few wearying feet at a time. There were still 12 grueling miles left to travel before reaching the city's outskirts. The struggle for Mosul ... is the largest and most complex so far in the battle against [ISIS] militants, who have been digging in for a fight. Residents who have recently fled the area ... say the Islamic State has been erecting concrete barricades and filling trenches with oil that can be set on fire to slow advancing forces. 'It's going to be a tough fight and a difficult fight,' Obama said on Tuesday. 'But my expectation is that ultimately it will be successful.'"



Makia Nunes, moments after she became a U.S. citizen yesterday, kisses a cardboard cutout of Hillary. She registered to vote immediately after her Naturalization Ceremony in Los Angeles. (Frederic J. Brown/AFP/Getty Images)

## **THE RACE CONTINUES TO MOVE AWAY FROM TRUMP:**

-- The chairman of a pro-Trump super PAC, Ed Rollins, told [Laura Ingraham](#) that it “would take a miracle at this point” for Trump to win.

-- Pre-spinning the loss, Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway says she cannot believe Clinton is not winning by a bigger margin given her numerous built-in advantages: “She has endless money. She’s got a lot of the media. She has a very popular president and first lady campaigning for her,” Conway [told Anderson Cooper](#). “I will tell you, I am mystified as to why she can’t get to those 52, 53 percent numbers in some of these states given the disadvantages we’re handed every day.”

-- Las Vegas bookies now have Clinton as [a six-to-one favorite](#).

-- A Washington Post/Survey Monkey poll of 15 battleground states gives Clinton a “decisive advantage” over Trump in the competition for Electoral College votes. From [Dan Balz and Scott Clement](#): “Based on the results ... along with assumptions of the likely outcomes in other states that have consistently voted for one party or the other, [Clinton] holds leads of four percentage points or more among likely voters in states that add up to 304 electoral votes. Trump, [meanwhile], has the advantage in states with an estimated electoral vote total of 138. Arizona, Florida, Ohio and Texas, which account for 96 electoral votes, remain as toss-ups.”

**Down-ballot Republicans continue to outperform Trump in our survey:** “Democrats need a net gain of five seats to take outright control -- four to exercise control if Clinton becomes president. The results showed Democrats with leads of four or more points in three states with GOP incumbents: New Hampshire, North Carolina and Wisconsin. Republican incumbents lead in Florida and Ohio, in the latter by a wide margin. Meanwhile, races in Nevada, for a seat currently held by Democrats, and Pennsylvania, for a seat now in Republican hands, continue to be close.”

**-- A [Bloomberg Politics poll](#) shows Clinton with a 9 point national lead (50-41). The two tied last month.** Trump is losing support among both men and those without college degrees. “This poll shows movement toward Clinton with all the right groups it takes to win,” said pollster J. Ann Selzer. “Their alignment with Clinton is a formidable change in the algebra.”

**-- An [Arizona Republic/Arizona State University](#) poll shows Clinton AHEAD in ARIZONA by 5 points.** Waning support for the Republican nominee does not appear to have shifted down-ballot, however, with McCain leading by 11 points over Democratic challenger Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick. **Support for the presidential candidates also appears to be somewhat baked into the cake, with two-thirds of voters saying they were not influenced by the previous two debates.** Of respondents who indicated the debate was influential, 16 percent said they were more likely to back Clinton. 9 percent said the same of Trump.

**-- The [University of Houston](#) finds Trump is only ahead by 3 points in Texas (41-38).**

-- [St. Norbert College](#) shows Clinton leading by 8 points in Wisconsin (47-39).

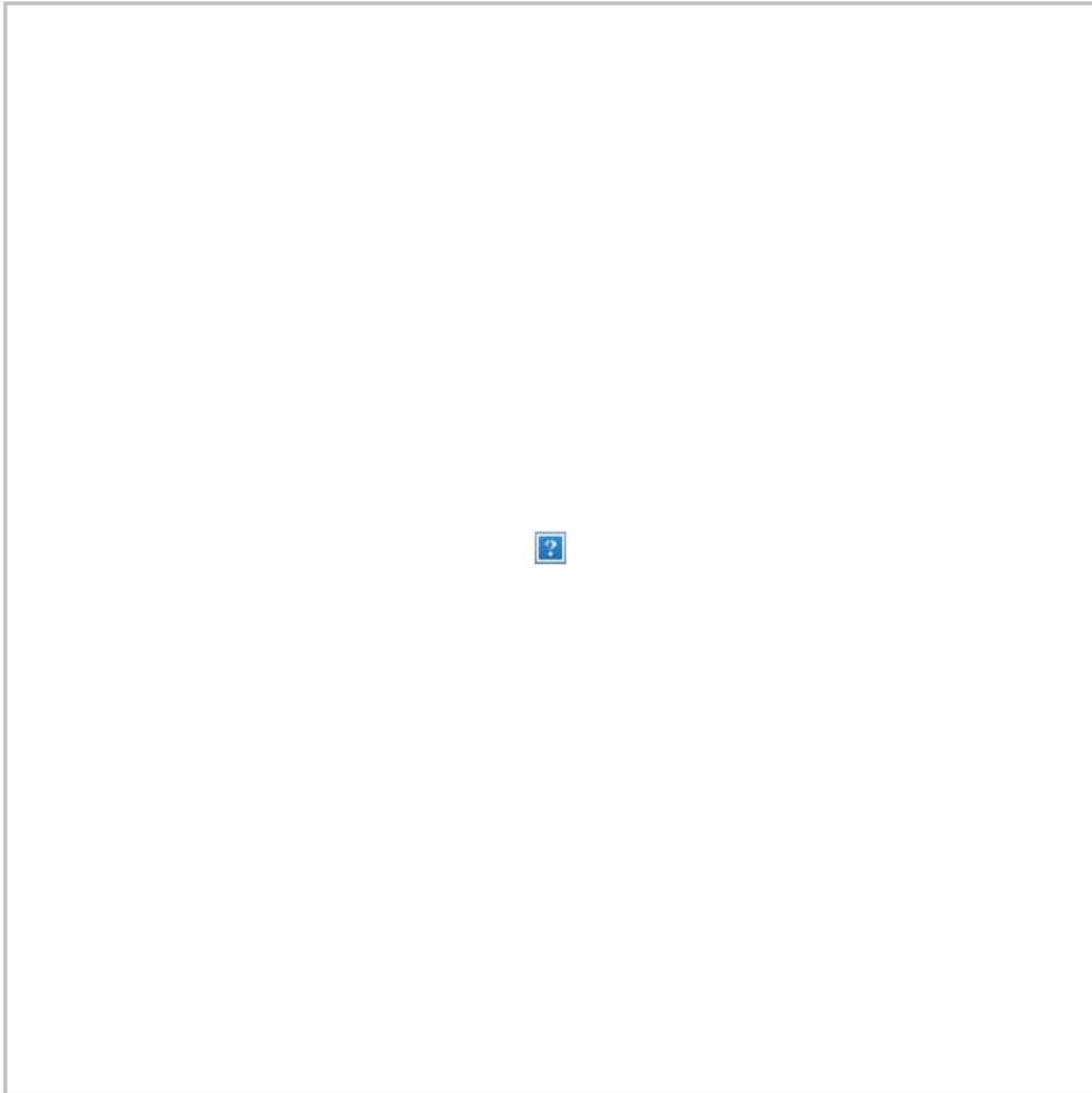
-- [Monmouth University](#) puts Clinton up 7 points in Nevada (47-40). Her surge in the state is largely attributed to younger, non-white voters moving into her column over the past month.

-- A [Fox News national poll](#) shows Clinton up 6 points (45-39).

-- The Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun conducted a poll asking which candidate people thought would be more appropriate as the U.S. president. They found that only 3 percent of Japanese picked Trump, while 73 percent preferred Clinton. The rest had no opinion. The wording is non-traditional, but WaPo pollster Scott Clement checked out the paper's methodology and says it is legit. This will not surprise close poll watchers. [Previous international surveys](#) have found Trump to be exceptionally unpopular.

-- **Fear of an imminent terrorist attack is one of the top concerns of people across the globe**, with most expecting extremist groups will acquire weapons of mass destruction, according to a new poll conducted in eight countries. From [Carol Morello](#): "The [survey, commissioned by the Center for Strategic and International Studies](#) (CSIS), showed that many people think their governments are not doing enough to combat violent extremism. And a majority in every country polled, including the United States, overwhelmingly approved all 21 options presented to them — among them, requiring identification cards for citizens and visitors; rigorous screening of immigrants; bans on incendiary religious speech; and monitoring of

phone calls, emails and social media."



Clinton takes a selfie with the crowd at a voter registration rally at Wayne State University in Detroit. (Reuters/Lucy Nicholson)

## **THE DAILY HILLARY:**

**-- Former FBI agent Brian McCauley pushed back on allegations of a "quid pro quo." He confirmed that he spoke to a top State Department official about changing the classified status of one of Clinton's emails, as well as a long-standing FBI request for additional staffing in U.S. embassies, but he denied that any**

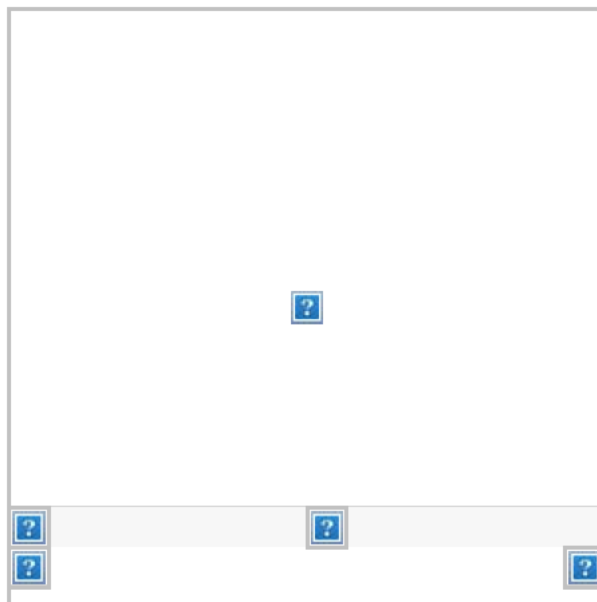
**inappropriate collusion ever took place.** In an interview with [Matt Zapotosky](#), McCauley acknowledged that he offered to do a favor in exchange for another favor, but before he had any inkling of what Kennedy wanted. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015. McCauley said that when he learned the missive concerned the attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, he told Kennedy he could not help him. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015.

**-- “Black activists and organizers, frustrated with the Clinton campaign’s inability to engage young voters, have taken it upon themselves to challenge their peers to consider the consequences if Republicans take the White House,”** [Vanessa Williams reports](#). “They also have encouraged young voters to focus on state and local elections, because those officials make decisions about how police departments and schools are run, issues that more directly affect their lives. Younger African Americans, like many millennials, are not excited about this year’s presidential election ... [but] because Trump’s campaign has laid bare racist attitudes, the seeming indifference of black millennials to the election has sparked broad discussion within the African American community.”

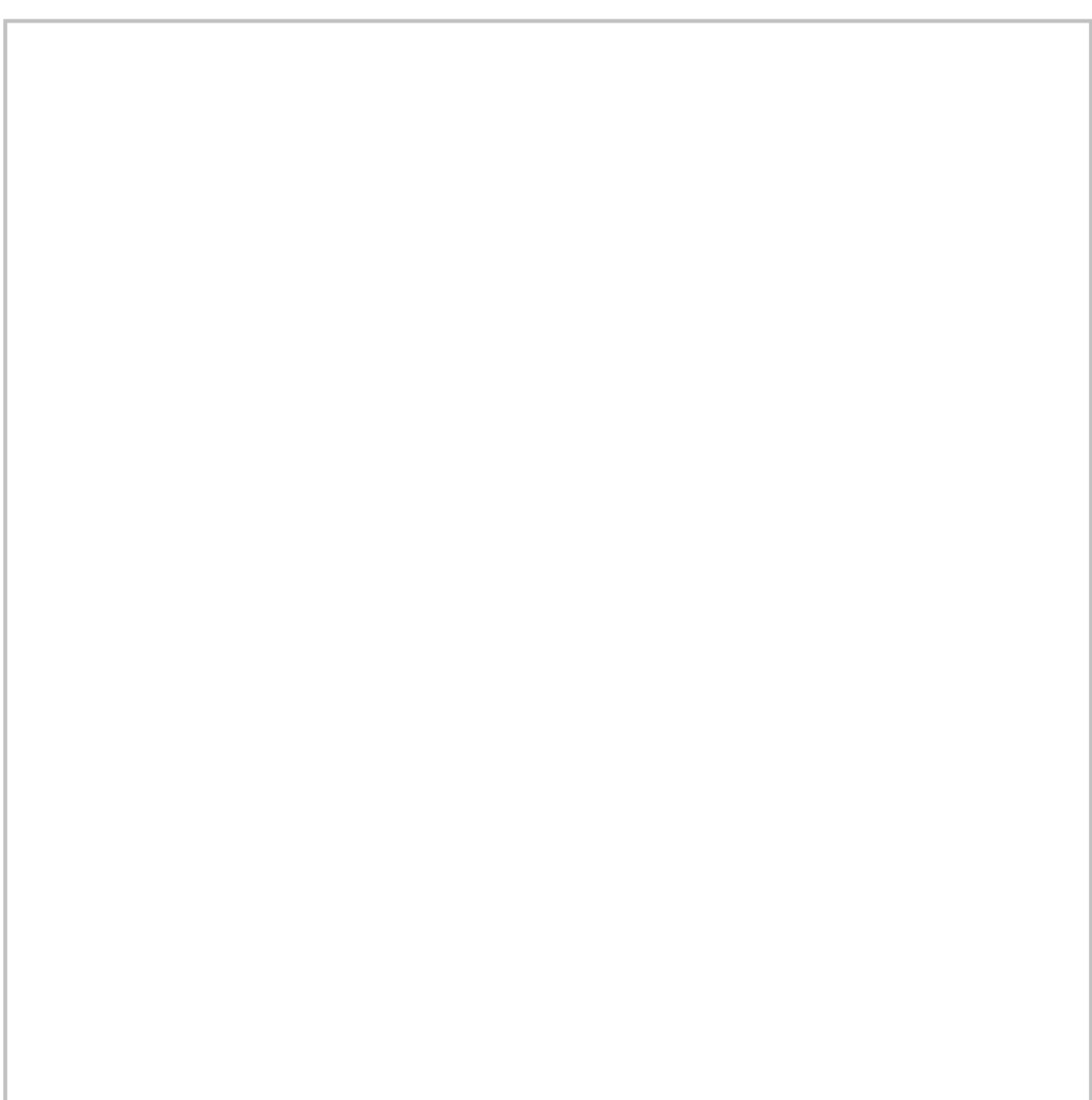
**-- Seventy Nobel Laureates endorsed Clinton, arguing that her election is “crucial for safeguarding freedom and preserving a constitutional government.”** Signatories include world-renowned

experts in science, medicine and economics, such as chemist Peter Agre, economist Robert Shiller, and physicist Robert Woodrow Wilson. Separately, a group of 140 conservative writers urged voters to reject Trump, calling him “most dangerous to our nation’s founding ideals” in an open letter. Several former Republican White House staffers are on the list. ([New York Times](#))

ADVERTISEMENT







John Podesta boards the Clinton campaign plane in White Plains, New York, yesterday en route to Las Vegas. (Lucy Nicholson/Reuters)

-- **An early draft of Clinton's V.P. list:** John Podesta in mid-March emailed Clinton a preliminary list of names to consider for her running mate, organized into what he termed "rough food groups." WikiLeaks posted it yesterday, and [the Journal wrote it up](#):

The first group included her **Latino options**, including Secretary of Labor Tom Perez and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julián Castro.

The second consisted of **black candidates**, including Cory Booker and Eric Holder.

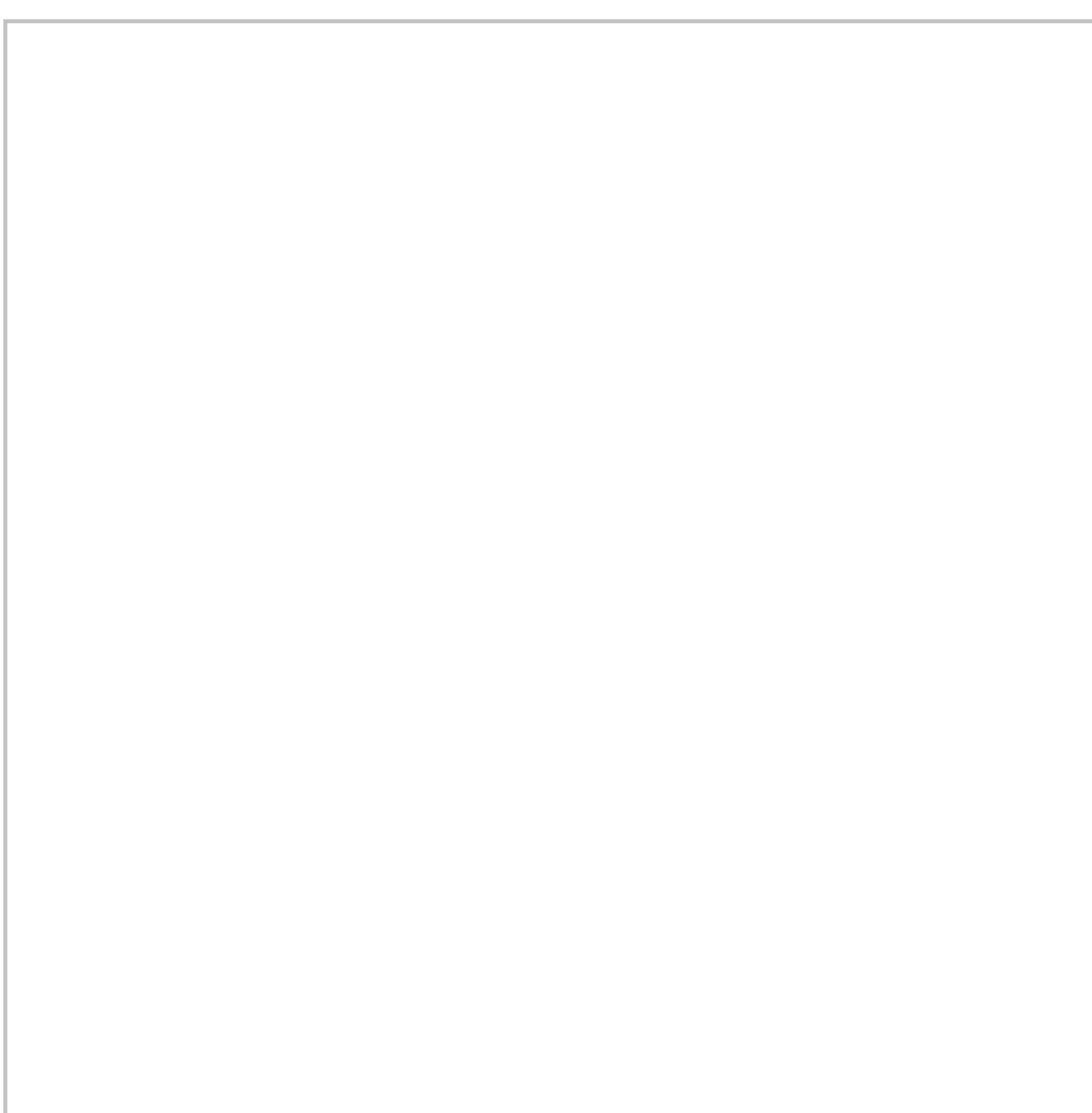
The third was **white men who could help in a swing state**, including Tim Kaine, Terry McAuliffe and Sherrod Brown.

Another section included **seven women**, including Elizabeth Warren and Jeanne Shaheen.

He also suggested **three military names**, including retired Marine Corps Gen. John Allen.

Podesta also floated **corporate options**, including Bill Gates, Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, Michael Bloomberg; Apple CEO Tim Cook and Coca-Cola Co. CEO Muhtar Kent.

The final category had just one name: **Bernie Sanders**.



Melania, Ivanka, Eric and Donald Trump, Jr. wait for the start of the second debate St. Louis. (John Locher/AP)

## **THE DAILY DONALD:**

-- **People Magazine published six stories** from friends and colleagues of Trump accuser **Natasha Stoyneff**, corroborating her accusation that the **Republican nominee forced himself on her in 2005**. Two people who went on the record are now People editors - deputy East Coast editor Mary Green and East Coast editor Liz McNeil. Another is Stoyneff's former journalism professor, who says she called him looking for advice immediately afterwards. And

yet another friend went on the record to back her claims that she ran into Melania Trump on Fifth Avenue after the assault. The report comes as both Donald and Melania have denied the story and threatened legal action.

**-- Video surfaced yesterday of Trump attacking Condi Rice in 2006: "I wish she was a b\*\*ch," he said.** "I don't care if she's a lovely woman. I want somebody that can go and make deals. She goes to countries, nothing ever happens. Except sound bytes." When asked if she had any response to the New York Daily News report on Trump's remarks, the former secretary of state emailed [CNN](#): "Can't wait until November 9!"

**-- Trump's alleged misconduct has started a national conversation about sexual assault.** From [Katie Zezima](#): "The debate has been particularly painful for many victims of sexual assault, who now must endure nonstop coverage of allegations of groping and kissing without consent — along with backlash against the women who made the claims about Trump. But in the 2016 presidential election, the issue has become sharply divided along partisan lines, including claims by some Trump allies that the behavior described by Trump's accusers ... might not be considered assault. The resistance against the accusers is particularly awkward for the Trump campaign, which simultaneously argues that women who accused Bill Clinton of wrongdoing years ago should be believed." GOP strategist Ashley O'Connor said that Trump is essentially saying, "You need to believe the people who have come forward and accused [Bill]. You need to believe that [Hillary] was attacking these women. But don't believe the women who have come

forward against me.”

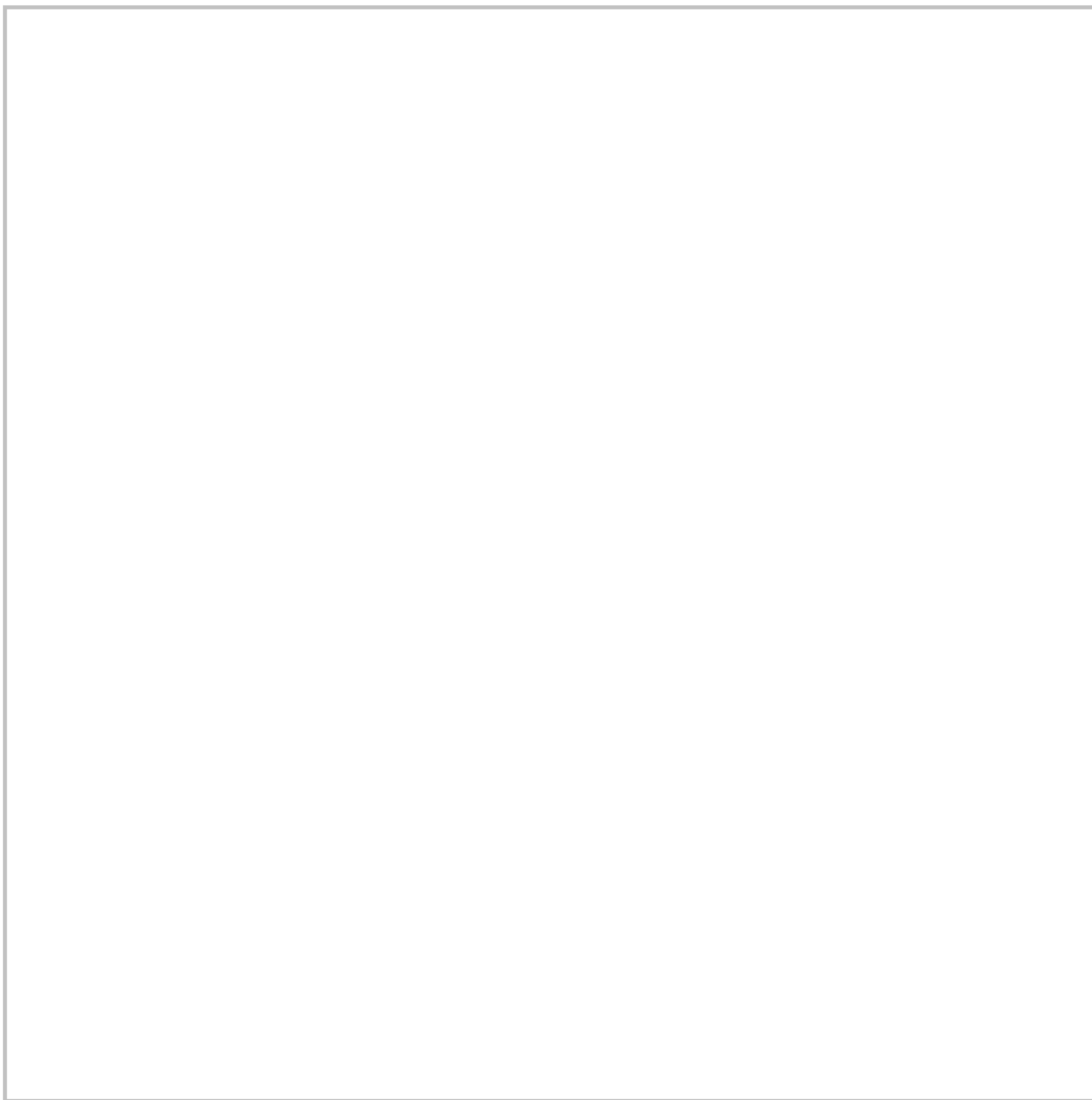
**-- Melania is taking a page from the old Hillary playbook:** “Until now, Melania Trump has declined to fulfill the mundane tasks of political wives, saying her duties to her young son are more important than the demand that a spouse go along for the ride to ‘humanize’ a candidate,” [Karen Tumulty writes](#). “Now, however, she has found herself in a time-honored duty for a political wife when a sex scandal hits — cleanup. [But] even as she defends her husband, [Melania] is willing to go only so far: In a moment where the script would appear to call for her to share a little more about ‘the man I know,’ she offered no personal glimpses of their lives. There was nothing more revealing than what one might hear in a campaign ad — outside, perhaps, her observation that she feels like she is living with two boys, not one.”

**-- Ivanka addressed her father’s lewd 2005 remarks for the first time, telling [Fast Company](#) that his conversation with Billy Bush was “clearly inappropriate and offensive.”** “I’m glad that he acknowledged this fact with an immediate apology to my family and the American people,” she added in a statement.

**-- Donald Jr. has made a series of offensive statements during interviews with shock-jock radio hosts.** CNN’s Andrew Kaczynski unearthed a [trove of controversial remarks](#) from the candidate’s son:

- **He joked about the Aurora movie theater shooting *on the same day 12 people were killed*:** After footage was played from a witness recounting the tragedy, Trump Jr. quipped that the survivor will still give the film “two thumbs up.”

- **He joked about child abuse at beauty pageants:** "They yell at the kids like, yeah 'You didn't do good, you forgot to turn! You forgot your turn!'" a host said, depicting the role of a stage parent. "The kids, they're crying," Trump Jr. said. "I just wanna play with Barbie." "She beats me when you're not here," said the host. "She's like limping," added Trump Jr., mocking a child's voice. "Help me, help me." **Trump Jr. added of the moms at beauty pageants, "They're all fat. Ugly."**
- **On not being able to mock overweight people:** "By the way you can't ... even make fat jokes now ... that's almost the worst one," he said. "It's easier to, like, do a racial thing, than it is a fat one because everyone knows they're fat and they get really offended."



Trump tells supporters to 'watch' St. Louis, Philadelphia and Chicago for voter fraud

**-- Doubling down on his rigged election rhetoric, Trump yesterday provided his supporters with a list of three cities where they should watch for corruption on Election Day.** "Take a look at St. Louis. Take a look at Philadelphia. Take a look at Chicago," Trump said in Colorado. "Look, look, if nothing else, people are going to be watching on November 8. Watch Philadelphia. Watch St. Louis. Watch Chicago, watch Chicago. Watch so many other places." (Two of those cities are in states that are not considered competitive, [Jenna Johnson notes](#).)

**-- Local election officials are panicking that Trump's reckless rhetoric will lead his supporters to bring guns to polling places, but they're mostly powerless to do anything about it:** "The Prince William County (Virginia) electoral board ... considered seeking a one-day ban on weapons at polling places located on private property but was rebuked by a gun-friendly state legislator," [Patricia Sullivan reports](#). "Del. Robert G. Marshall (R-Prince William) sent a letter to the board pointing out that it has no power to ban guns from polling places except for schools and courthouses, where weapons are prohibited by state law. ... Virginia's election officials have been discussing on their private email list the possibility of intimidation or violence Nov. 8 and talking about what to do about unruly observers. ... Seventy of Prince William's 91 polling places are in schools, with the remaining 21 in churches, fire halls and community centers. Firearms are allowed in county government buildings, such as fire stations, libraries and community centers."

**-- Trump called for a Constitutional amendment to put in place congressional term limits, but he provided no details about the details.** ([Jenna Johnson](#))





Supporters of Nicolas Maduro display a giant inflatable dummy depicting late President Hugo Chavez in Caracas. (Juan Barreto/Getty)

-- **Venezuelan journalist and political scientist [Francisco Toro](#) argues that Trump really is much more like Nicolás Maduro than Hugo Chavez:** “Again and again, since taking over in 2013, Maduro has run roughshod over the constitution in ways Chávez never dared to ... [and] for Venezuelans, the past year has been an object lesson in how dangerous this approach can be. Last week, we followed this crazy dynamic off the deep end, when the court overturned 800 years of constitutional practice, dating back to the original Magna Carta, ruling that when the constitution says the legislative branch has to

vote on the national budget, it means the president can just approve budgets on his own. ... **Having your democracy commit suicide under the lure of a charismatic demagogue is not the kind of experience you can fully make sense of unless you've lived it in your own skin.** Before 2016, no explanation I could give my American friends was enough. Now, my American friends can just turn on CNN and watch it happening live.”

### **THE BATTLEGROUND:**

-- **A civil rights group filed a federal lawsuit to force Virginia to extend its voter registration period, after the state's online system crashed on Monday.** The technological glitch prohibited registration from an unknown number of participants. Some have estimated the number to be in the “tens of thousands.” ([Laura Vozzella](#))

-- **Pro-Clinton super PAC Priorities USA announced it will begin airing ads in two Senate races and will start airing television and radio ads in Georgia to boost Clinton.** “New ads will support Gov. Maggie Hassan in the New Hampshire Senate race against Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte and Katie McGinty in the Pennsylvania Senate race against Sen. Patrick J. Toomey,” [Abby Phillip writes](#). “The super PAC also plans a new seven-figure television ad buy in Georgia in addition to new radio ads targeted at African American voters. The state has not been won by the Democratic presidential nominee since 1992.”

-- **DNC officials issued an apology after one of its campaign buses was recorded illegally dumping sewage into a Georgia**

**storm drain, calling the leak an “honest” but “unacceptable” mistake.** The driver of the bus – adorned with larger-than-life faces of Clinton and Kaine – said the vehicle’s sewage tank was full and leaking out. A guy in an auto parts repair store spotted him and record it. ([Katie Mettler](#))

**-- The race for Rep. Barbara Comstock’s House seat in Northern Virginia has tightened.** From [Jenna Portnoy](#): The Cook Political Report is moving the race up to toss-up, while the Rothenberg & Gonzales Political Report already considers it a toss-up district, tilting to the Republican. “Experts consider the district among the most competitive in the nation despite lackluster fundraising numbers from Democratic challenger LuAnn Bennett and evidence [Trump] might not be the anchor on down-ballot candidates some had expected,” Portnoy writes. The two will face off this morning for the final debate of the campaign.

**-- “[Clinton Challenges Trump for a Traditional Republican Bloc: White Catholics](#),” by the New York Times's Jason Horowitz in Philly:** “Since the election of Ronald Reagan, white Roman Catholics have flocked to Republican nominees for a raft of reasons, including their stances on social issues like abortion and same-sex marriage. But this year, something seems different. ‘Trump is the exception to the rule,’ said 67-year-old Carol Robinson, leaving an afternoon prayer meeting in Philadelphia. ‘He’s a loose cannon.’ Roman Catholics are the country’s second-largest religious group after evangelical Protestants, and they are as diverse as the country itself, with young liberals, cultural conservatives and, increasingly, Democratic-leaning Hispanics.”

**One quiet influencer could be Pope Francis**, wh emphasizes inclusion and the welfare of the poor over divisive issues like abortion and homosexuality. In February, he suggested Trump “is not a Christian.”

**-- Harry Reid reflects on when Trump used to be one of his donors in [an interview with Paul Kane](#):** “Reid found a priceless piece of memorabilia recently while sorting through 34 years of congressional papers. It’s a picture of Reid with [Trump], inside the real-estate developer’s Manhattan home, both men smiling. He’s pretty sure it’s from 1992, when [he] was running his first Senate reelection bid and when [Trump] was happy to help Democrats. Reid appreciated Trump’s generosity. ‘He wasn’t much of a big shot then, neither was I,’ Reid recalled ... Over the years when Trump was a reliable donor to Senate Democrats, Reid saw no signs of a future Republican presidential candidate who he would later eviscerate as a ‘racist’ and a ‘human leech.’ Now, heading into political twilight, the former boxer is clearly relishing what is essentially his last campaign through attacks on Trump ... ‘I’m kind of an unusual politician,’ he said.”



Libertarian Lucy Brenton, Democrat Evan Bayh and Republican Todd Young debate in Indianapolis last night. (AP Photo/Michael Conroy, Pool)

## **SENATE DEBATES:**

-- **“Indiana’s Senate race got personal Tuesday,” the [Indianapolis Star’s](#) Maureen Groppe and James Briggs write.**

“After weeks of attacking each other in campaign commercials, former Sen. Evan Bayh and GOP Rep. Todd Young directly accused each other of not representing Hoosiers’ interests in their [sole debate] ... Young repeatedly charged Bayh, a Democrat, with following the orders of Washington insiders and looking out for

himself. 'Evan Bayh took the money and ran,' Young said after criticizing Bayh's vote for the Affordable Care Act. 'He joined a major lobbying firm in Washington, D.C., and he represented clients that needed relief from the very problem he created from Obamacare.' Bayh said Young has voted against the needs of veterans, seniors and workers who are losing their jobs to overseas competition. And he accused Young of lying about his record. 'Congressman Young has told so many whoppers here tonight, it's hard to keep track,'" Bayh said.

**-- The final debate between Sen. Ron Johnson and Democrat Russ Feingold also turned personal, the [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel's Bill Glauber reports](#):** "Skirmishing over campaign finance, national security, the economy and the presidential candidates, the men engaged in a feisty 90-minute clash ... With polls showing a tight race, there was little room for error as the candidates sought to shore up their base support while reaching out to the small number of undecided voters. In a sense, the debate was six years in the making as the two men entered the closing stretch of their rematch race. Throughout the debate, Feingold claimed that Johnson 'didn't have a plan' on issues. Johnson fired back, 'Senator Feingold is always going to have a plan to grow government.'" "I will stand with the people of this state," Feingold said. "Senator Johnson stands with the corporations, the billionaires and the multi-millionaires." In rebuttal, Johnson said he "understands what it's like to work": "I'm the working man," he said. "I've worked hard all my life."



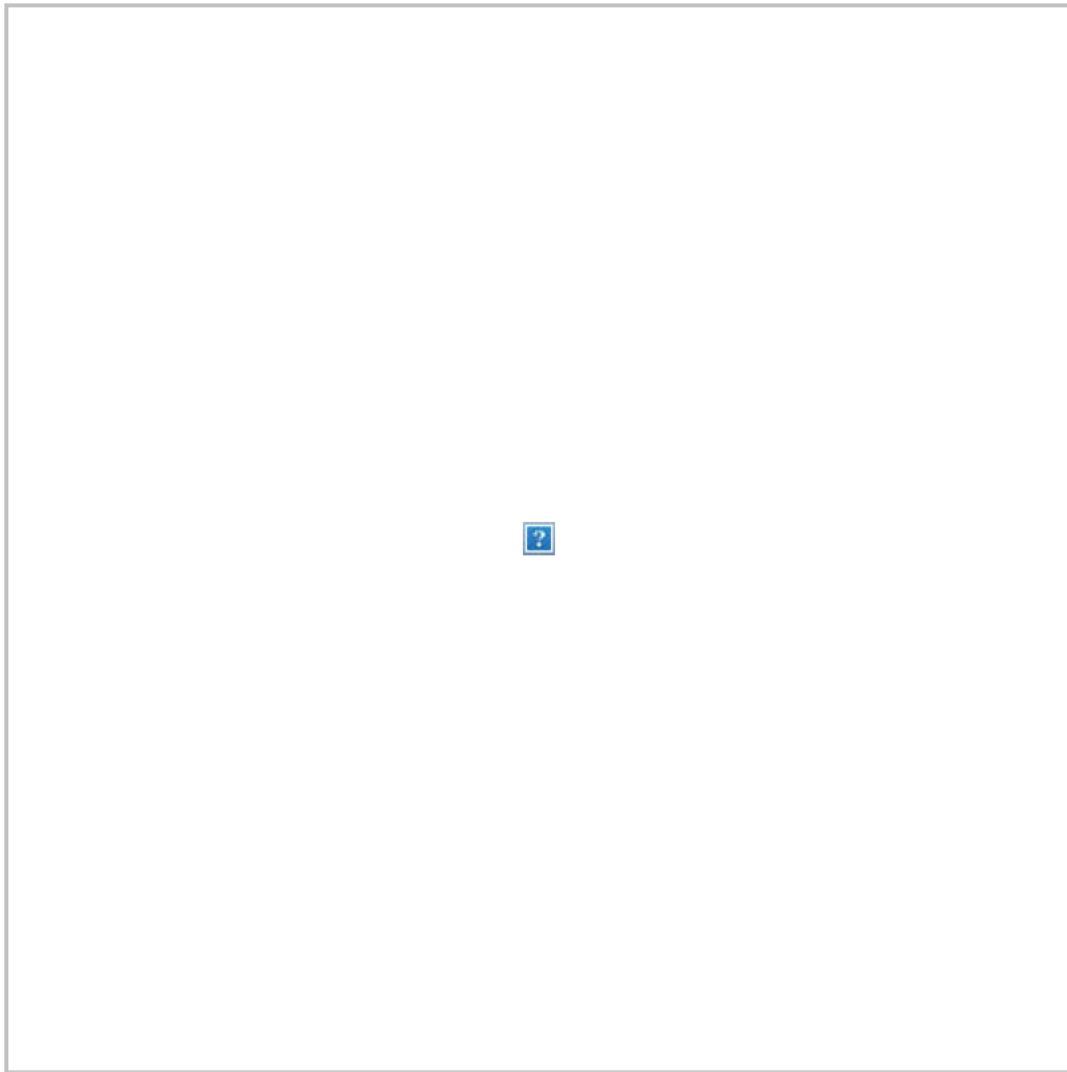
A pan handler sits with a "Give me \$1 or I'm voting for Trump" sign in Manhattan.  
(Carlo Allegri)

### **IT'S SILLY SEASON:**

**-- A Wisconsin woman was arrested after she spread peanut butter on 30 cars that she believed belonged to Trump supporters. But it turns out the cars actually belonged to members of a local conservation club!** "Witnesses said 32-year-old Christina Ferguson stormed into the club meeting on Monday night, holding what a Portage County deputy's report described as a 'family-size jar of low-sodium, creamy natural Jif,'" [HuffPost](#) reports. "Officers

said Ferguson grew emotional as she explained how much she loved Clinton and hated Trump. She then explained why she'd misused peanut butter. 'Peanut butter is better than fire-bombing,' the officer quoted her as saying. She added that Trump wants to fire-bomb everybody in other countries."

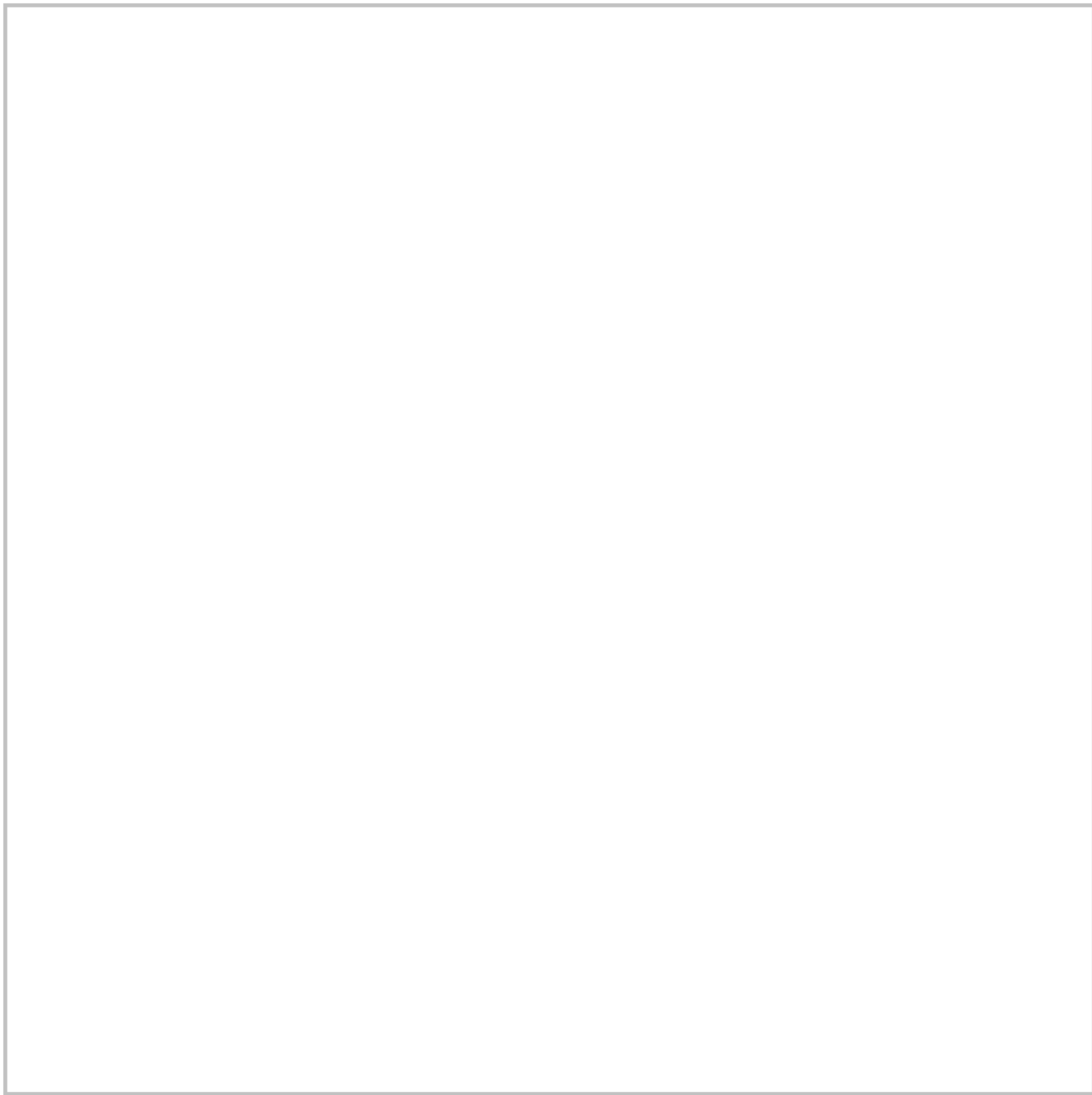
**-- A naked, hoofed statue of Hillary prompted a scuffle in Manhattan. An outraged Clinton supporter destroyed it while the artist tried in vain to save it, the [New York Post](#). (Travis Andrews)**



**SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:**

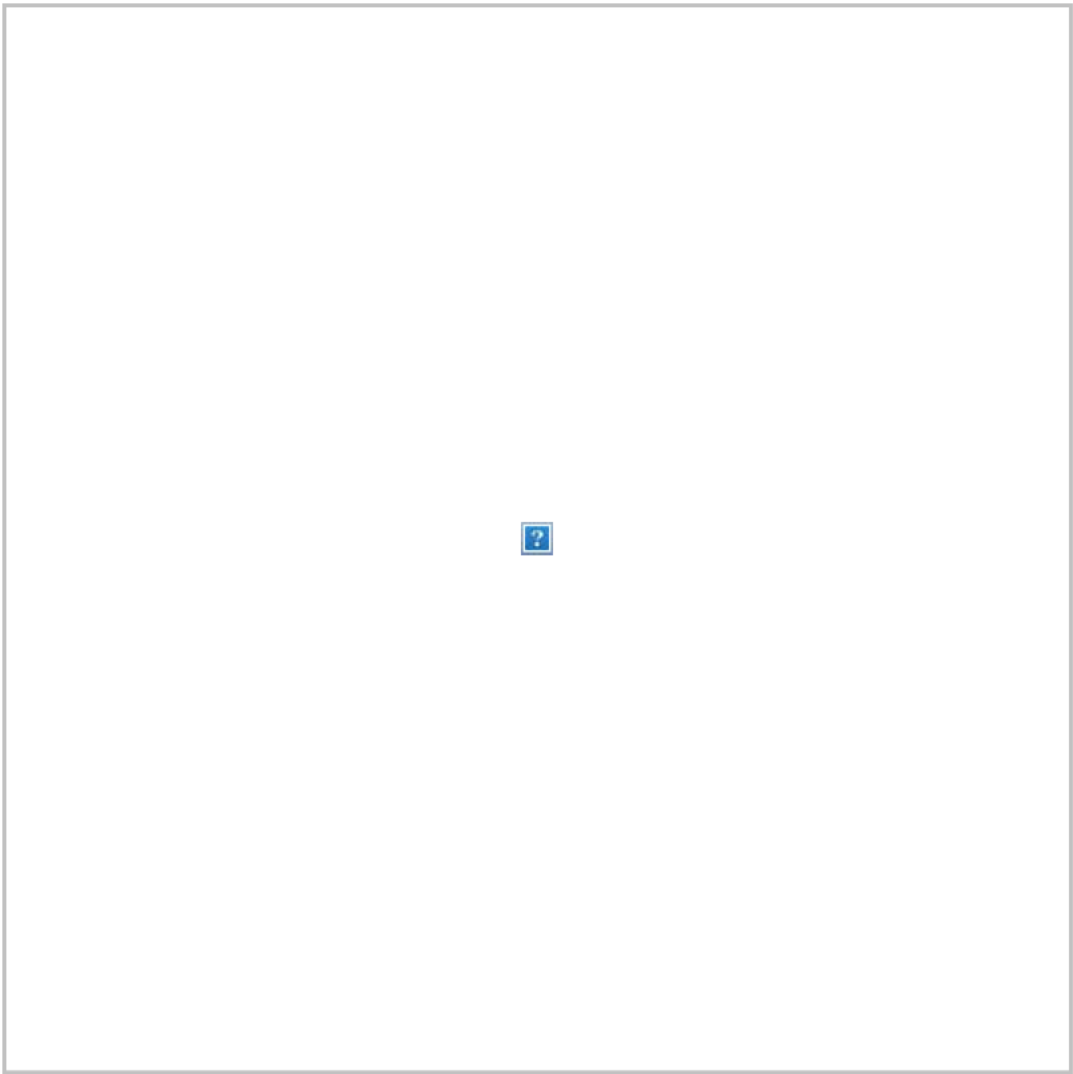


**Over 62 million people on Facebook in the U.S. posted about, shared, liked or commented on content related to Trump over 931 million times in the last month.** The chart below shows the unique number of people on Facebook engaging in the conversation about each candidate – as well as the number of interactions those people generated. Interactions represents the total aggregate number of likes, posts, comments and shares made about a particular candidate within the timeframe. The interactions figure includes not only the activity on the candidate's page, but all of the likes, posts, comments and shares about that candidate from throughout Facebook:

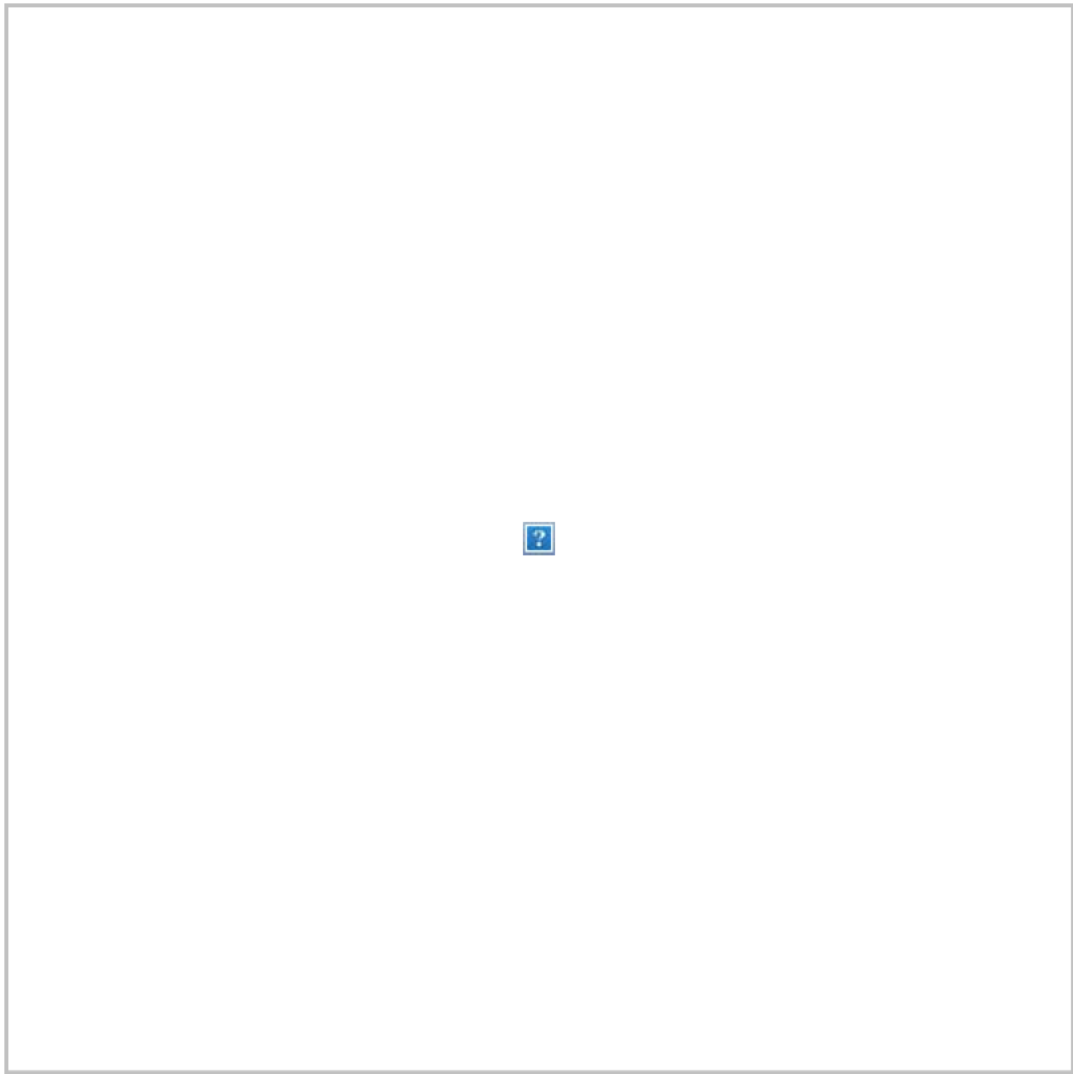


**The top five most talked about political topics on Facebook over the past month:** 1. Crime & Criminal Justice; 2. Religion; 3. Taxes; 4. Government Ethics; 5. Racial Issues.

The Onion is on the lookout for late-breaking Trump news:

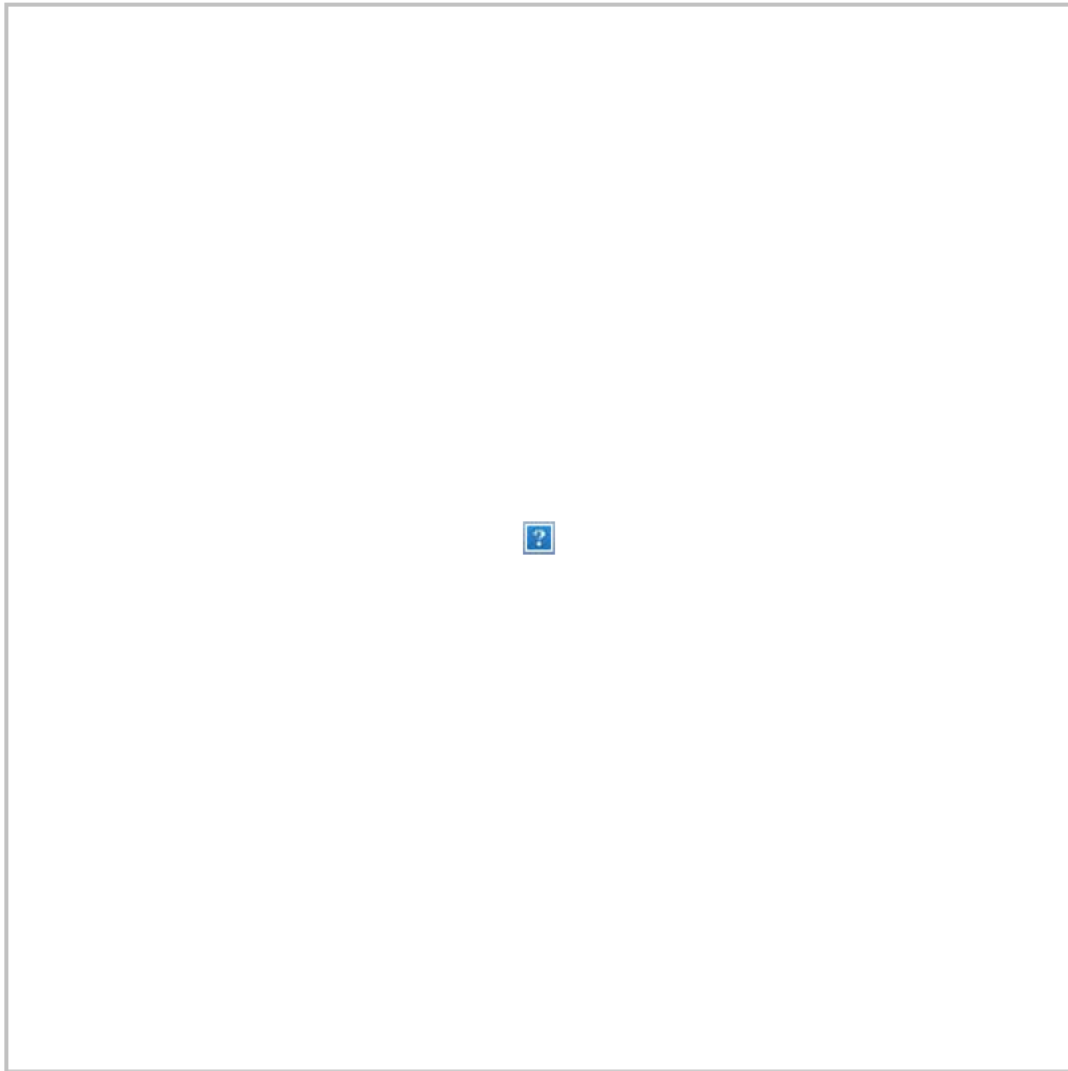


Coming soon to a Las Vegas billboard:

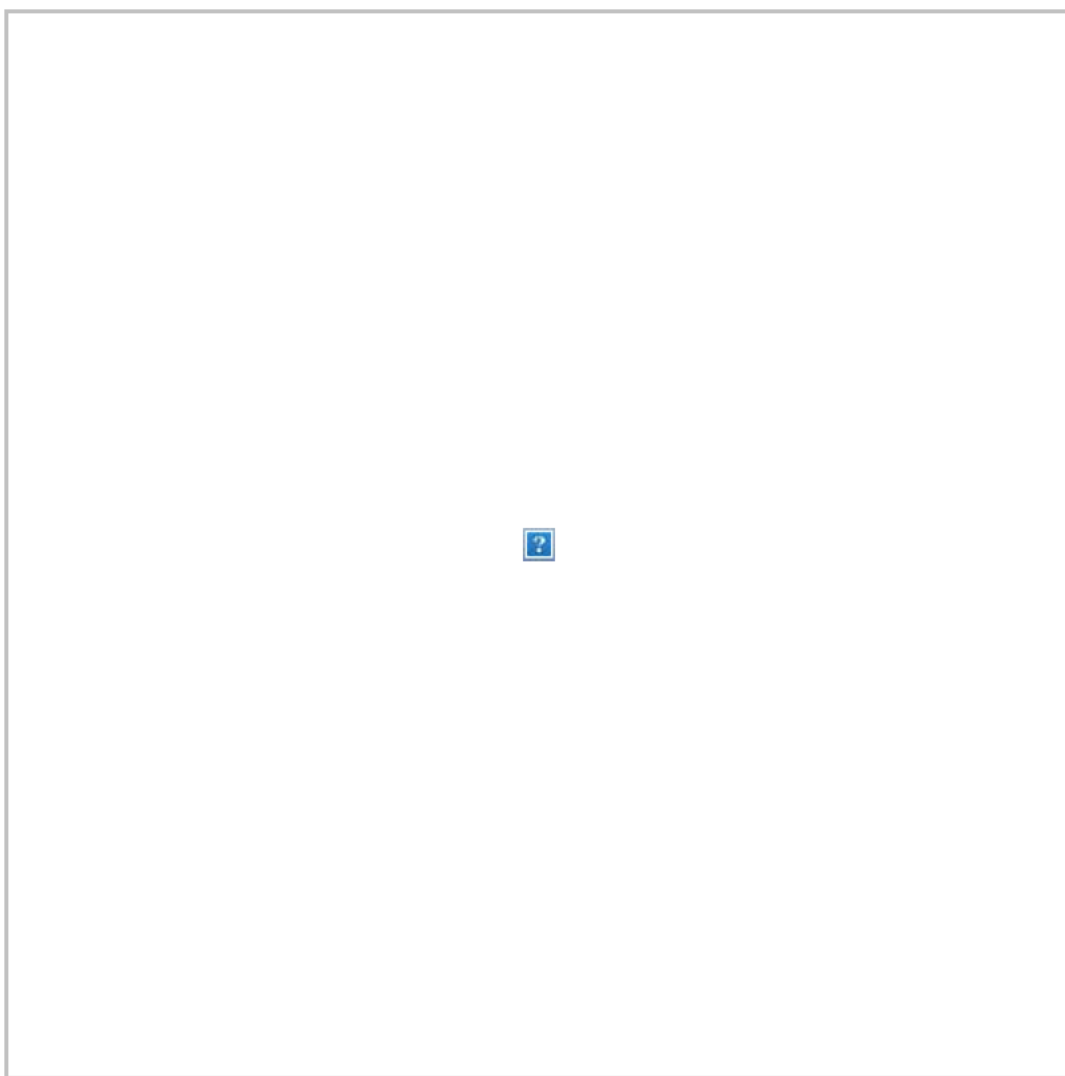


Fox's Sean Hannity and CNN's Brian Stelter went back-and-forth on the issue of voter fraud:

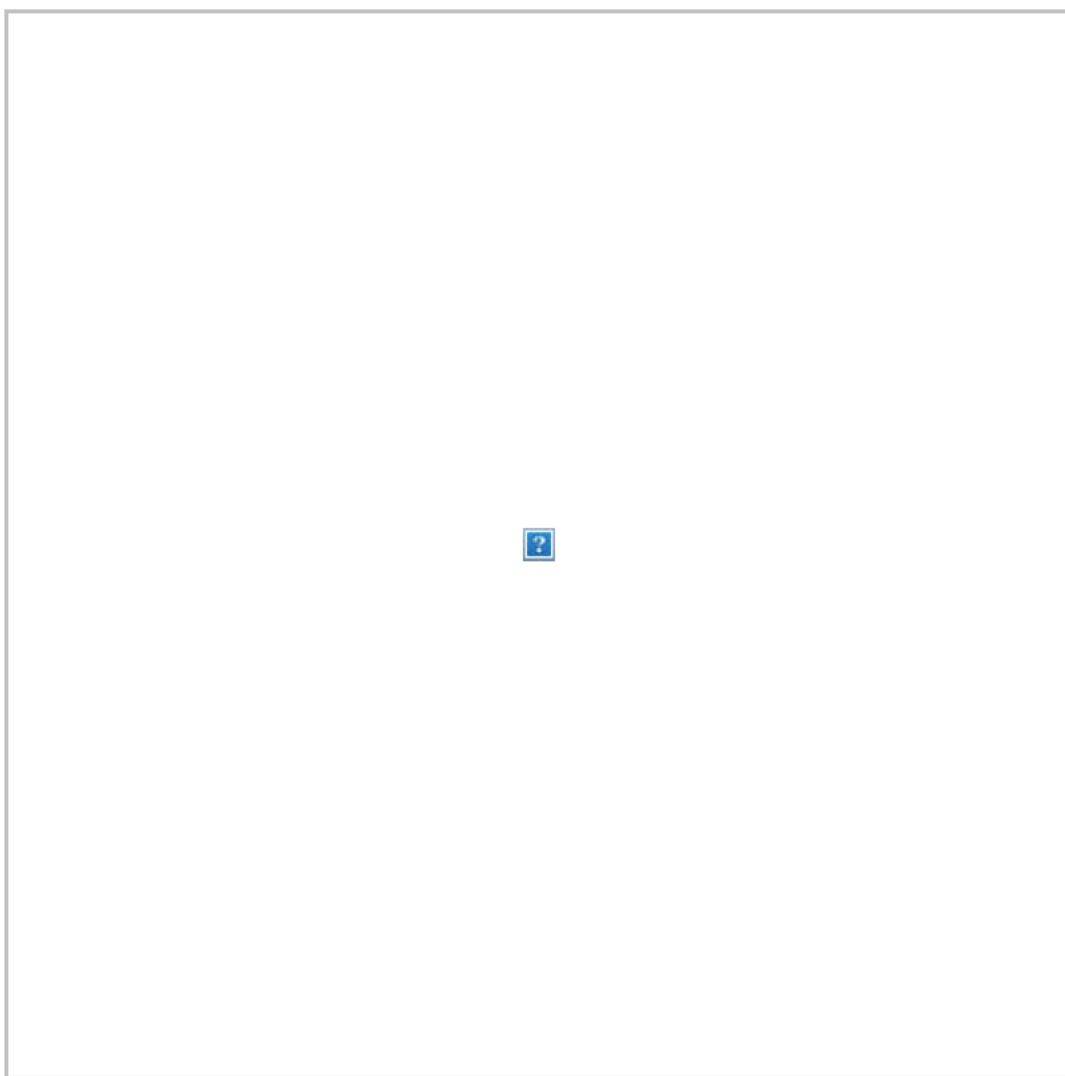
[Vogue endorsed Clinton](#), making the first ever political endorsement in the magazine's history. "We understand that Clinton has not always been a perfect candidate, yet her fierce intelligence and considerable experience are reflected in policies and positions that are clear, sound and hopeful," the magazine's editors write.



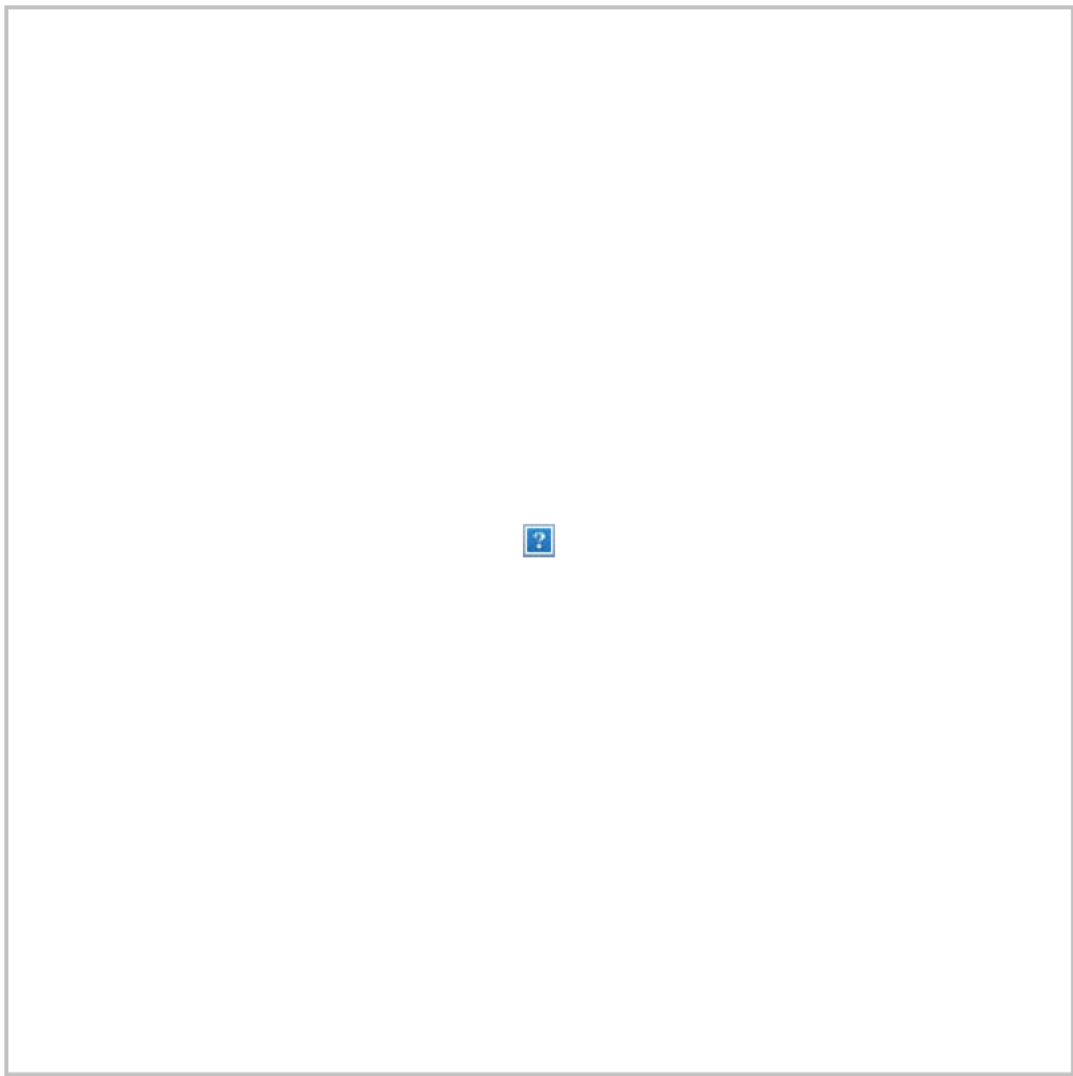
This is pretty funny:



Wyclef Jean posted this photo:

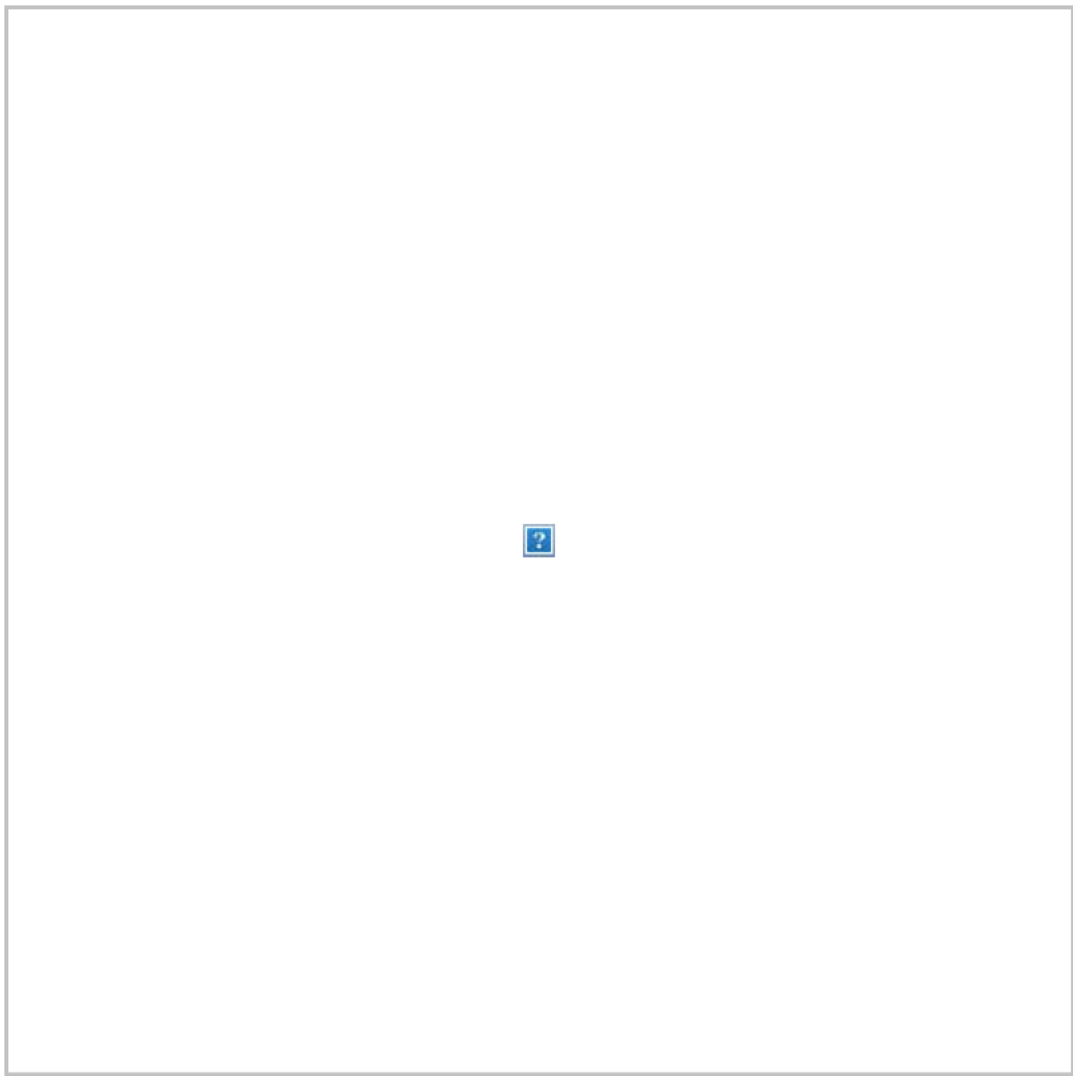


Debra Messing got a thank-you note from the White House:



Jason Chaffetz took this selfie while camping:





Kevin McCarthy went to a Dodgers game:



### GOOD READS FROM ELSEWHERE:

-- New York Times, "[David Letterman \(and His Beard\) Shop at Target These Days](#)," by Dave Itzkoff: "Why does David Letterman have a beard? To put it more precisely: Why did Mr. Letterman, after stepping down from CBS's 'Late Show' and a 33-year career ... spend the past year and a half cultivating a fleecy and prodigious mound of facial hair ...? Did he grow these imposing bristles to keep the world at bay while he withdrew into retirement?" Was it his way of saying he was no longer the man who had spent 6,000 evenings reading Top 10 lists and interviewing 20,000 guests? **Actually, he**

**explained, 'I just got tired of shaving every day, but then it became something else, and I'm not quite sure what it became.'**

In his dry Midwestern delivery, tinged with a new and unaccustomed element of wistfulness, he said: 'The beard is a good reminder to me that that was a different life. I'm hopeful that I will either find something else, or something else will be presented to me.' ... With years of vitality left, he has been trying, since his 'Late Show' farewell in May 2015, to figure out what his next step should be."

**-- National security reporter Walter Pincus prepared a list of pressing foreign policy questions that Trump and Clinton should answer in tonight's debate.** Some highlights from [his column for the Cipher Brief](#):

- **For Trump, on Russia:** "At the last debate, despite your being briefed by intelligence analysts and after Director of National Intelligence James Clapper publicly identified Russia as doing the hacking, you said [Clinton] 'doesn't know if it's the Russians doing the hacking,' and then added, 'Maybe there is no hacking.' Do you not trust the U.S. intelligence community determination ... that the Russians are behind the hacking of the [DNC] emails?"
- **For Clinton, on Syria:** "You are advocating a no-fly zone and safe zones. Define just what would be involved on the part of the U.S. and its allies – including forces in the air and on the ground [for protection] ... Would you seek congressional authorization to use American armed forces which will have to strike at Syrian government targets, something normally considered an act of war?"

**For Trump, on Syria:** On Oct. 9, you said “Syria is no longer Syria. Syria is Russia and it’s Iran.’ You also said Assad forces and the Russians in Syria were fighting ISIS, and implied if you were president you would no longer support any anti-Assad forces. Instead you would join with the Russians, Iranians and Assad regime in fighting ISIS. Would that be your policy for Syria? And if the Assad regime, supported by Russian and Iranian military forces, attempted to regain control over all of Syria, would you stand aside and let that happen?”

## HOT ON THE LEFT

## HOT ON THE RIGHT

**Two little known but influential Democratic operatives lost their jobs after edited footage from a video sting by conservative activist James O’Keefe found them entertaining “dark notions” about how to win elections. From Dave Weigel: “Footage from the video shows [Scott] Foval, a Wisconsin-based politico with a long resume, bragging about a litany of political dirty tricks. In the first video, he boasts of ‘conflict engagement in the lines of Trump rallies,’ takes credit for the violence that canceled a Trump rally at the University of Illinois in Chicago (and) **admits****

**he's paid 'mentally ill' people to start trouble."**

Robert Creamer also announced he is stepping down from the work he was doing for a progressive consulting group following release of the tape. On Tuesday night's episode of "Hannity," two campaign representatives said that the tapes "validated everything" Trump had said about the possible threat of the election being stolen.

#### **DAYBOOK:**

**On the campaign trail:** Trump and Clinton debate in Las Vegas. Tim Kaine speaks in Upper Arlington and Springfield, Ohio and Asheville, N.C.; Bernie Sanders rallies Clinton supporters in Reno, Nev. Pence speaks in Durango, Colo.

**At the White House:** Obama has no public events scheduled. Biden speaks about the Cancer Moonshot at the SAP Global CEO Summit in New York. Later, he travels to Boston to speak again about the project at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute.

**On Capitol Hill:** The Senate and House are out.

#### **QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

Obama mocked Trump for griping about a rigged election: "You start whining before the game's even over?"



## NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:

-- **“A solidly summerlike day, with partly to mostly sunny skies and noticeable humidity,” the [Capital Weather Gang forecasts](#).**

“Highs head for the mid-80s, with light winds from the west-southwest around 5-10 mph. The record highs to beat for the day? — 88 at DCA, 83 at Dulles, and 82 at BWI.”

-- **The Wizards [beat the Cleveland Cavaliers](#) 96-91.**

-- **The [Capitals beat the Colorado Avalanche](#) 3-0**

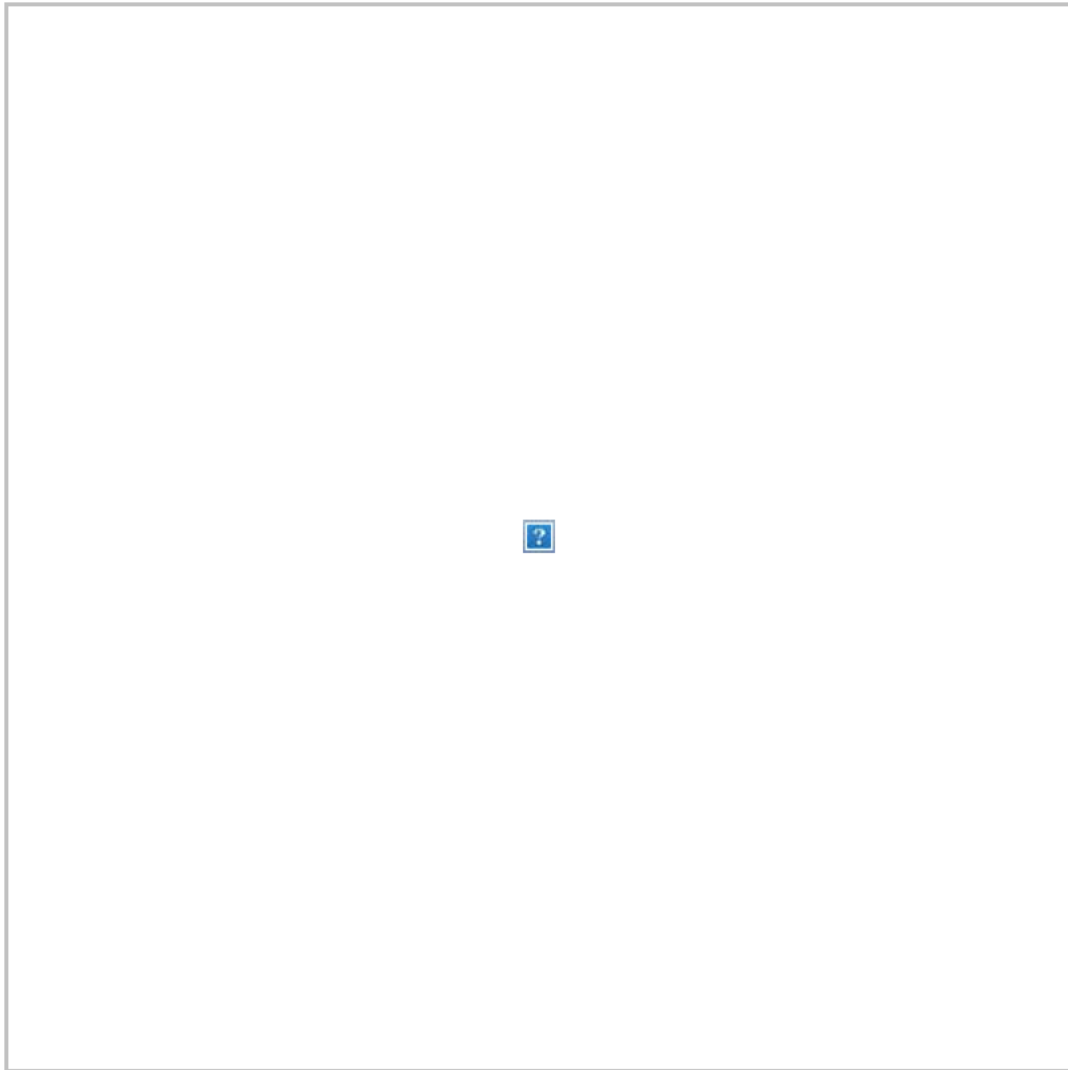
-- **A Richmond federal appeals court agreed to postpone oral arguments in a case over the Washington Redskins’ trademark registration,** further delaying a long-running case that pits the NFL team against the U.S. patent office and Native Americans groups find the team’s name insulting. ([Ian Shapira](#))

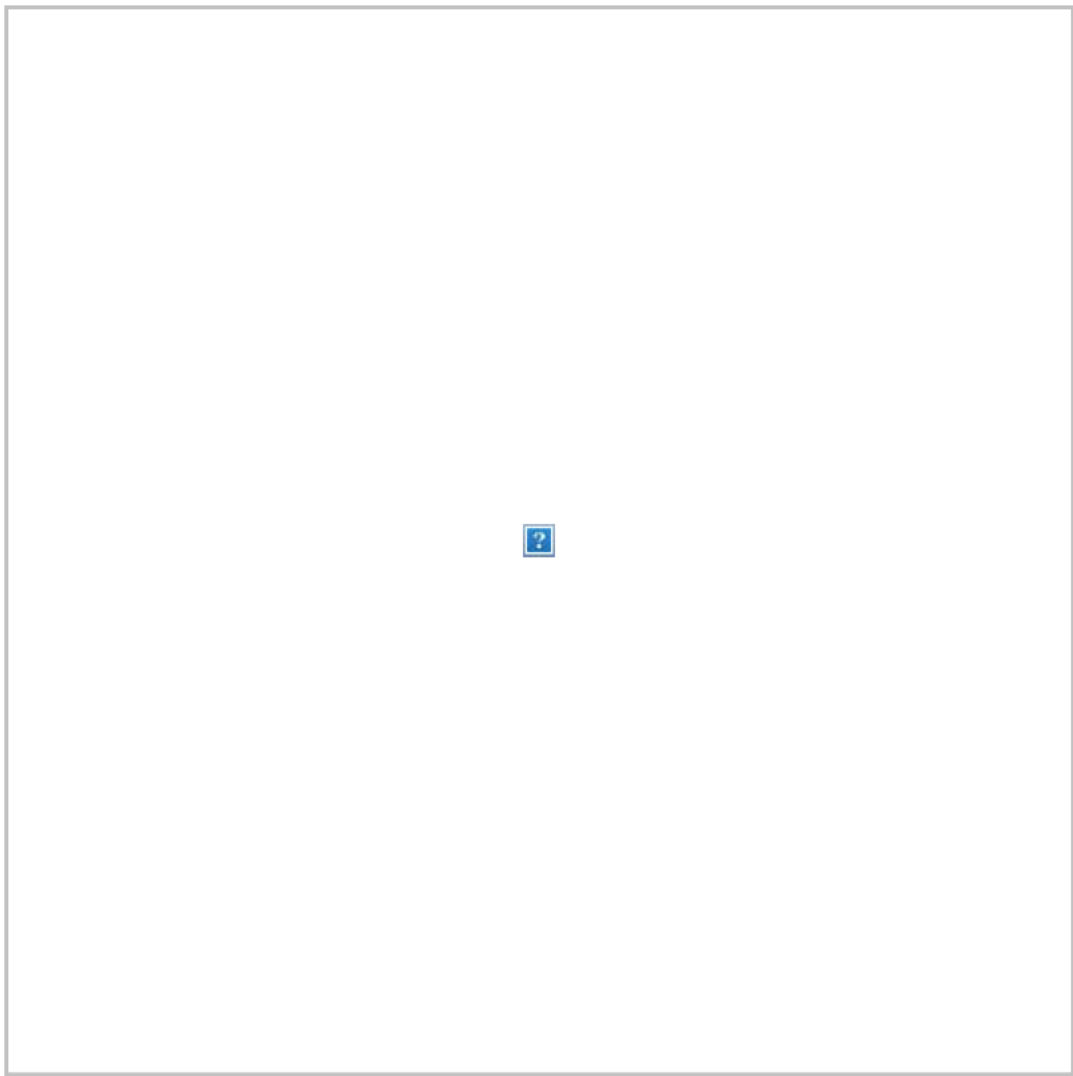
-- **A high school senior was fatally stabbed on a D.C. Metrobus Tuesday evening, reportedly following a long-running dispute with another young woman over a cell phone. Police** said the suspect has been taken into custody and charged. ([Peter Hermann](#))

-- **Marriott International announced plans to relocate its headquarters to downtown Bethesda,** deciding to remain in Montgomery County after getting commitment on a \$62 million publicly funded initiative. ([Jonathan O'Connell](#))

## VIDEOS OF THE DAY:

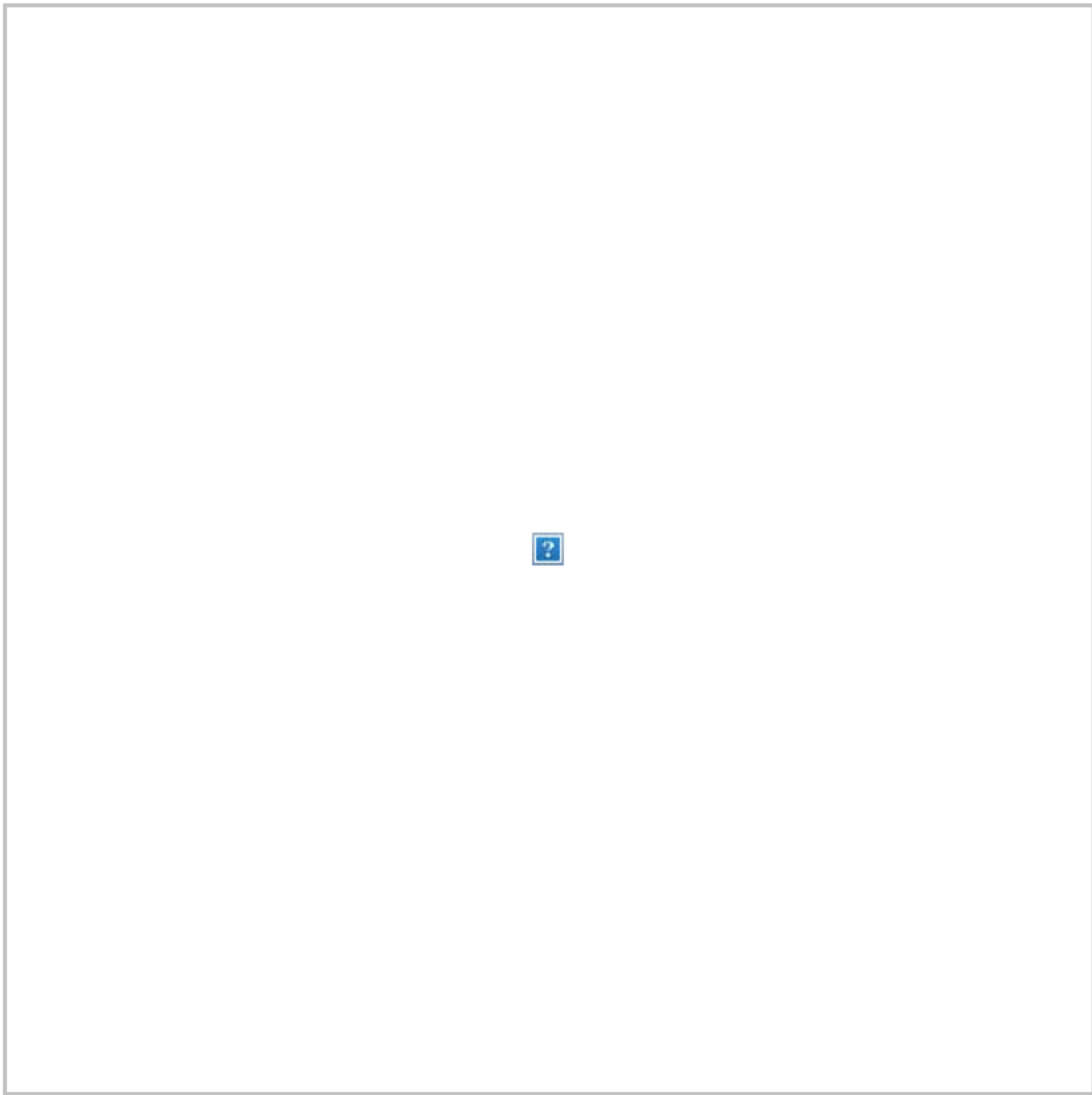
Tony Award-winning actress Laura Benanti [returned to “The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” last night](#) to reprise her [spot-on parody](#) of Melania Trump — this time with some uncomfortable Billy Bush references:





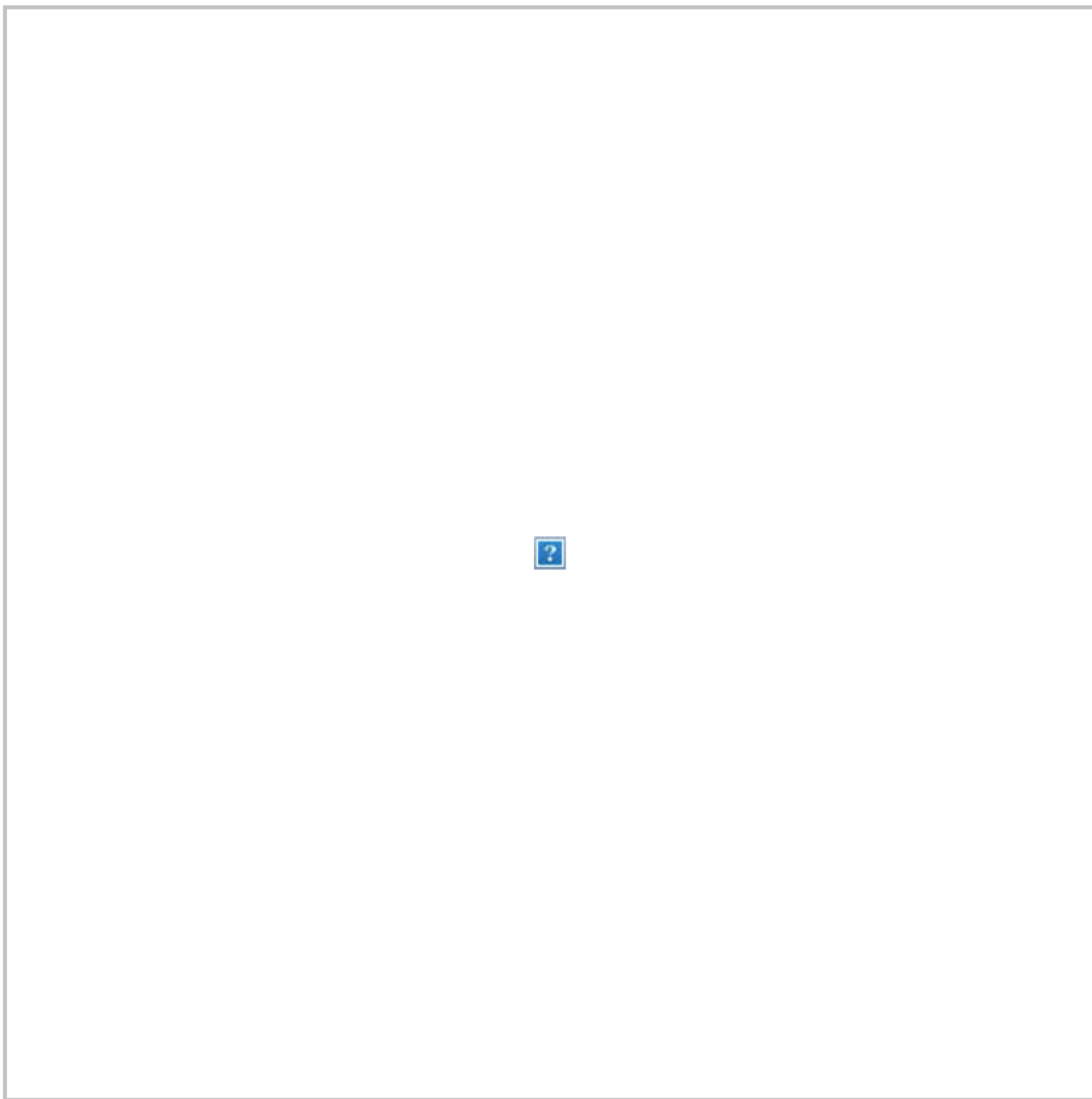
Watch as celebrities arrive at the White House for the Italian state dinner:





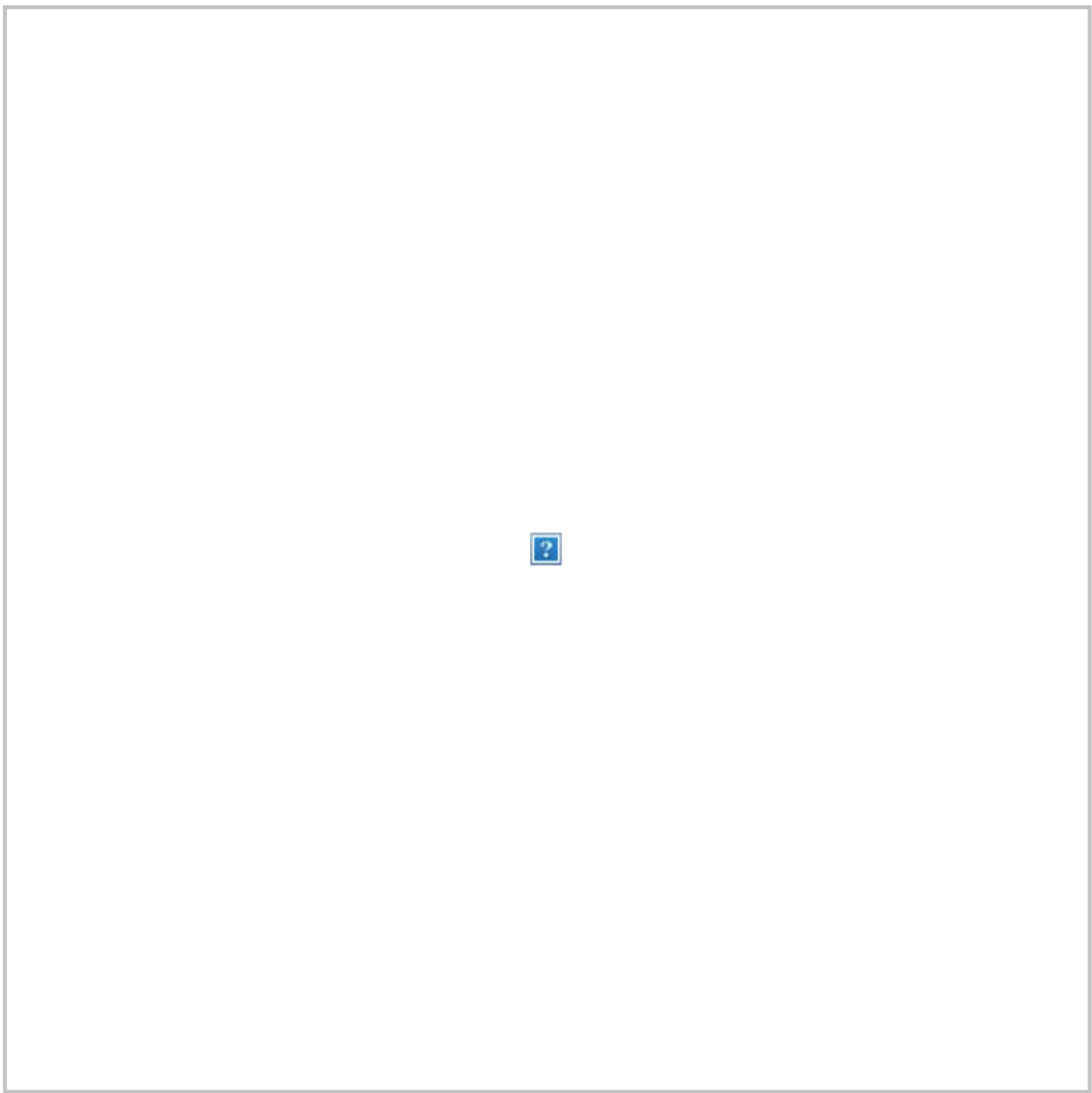
Celebrities arrive for Italian state dinner

"Dreamer" Juan Salazar, who came to the U.S. when he was seven, contemplates what's at stake in this election for him and his undocumented family members:



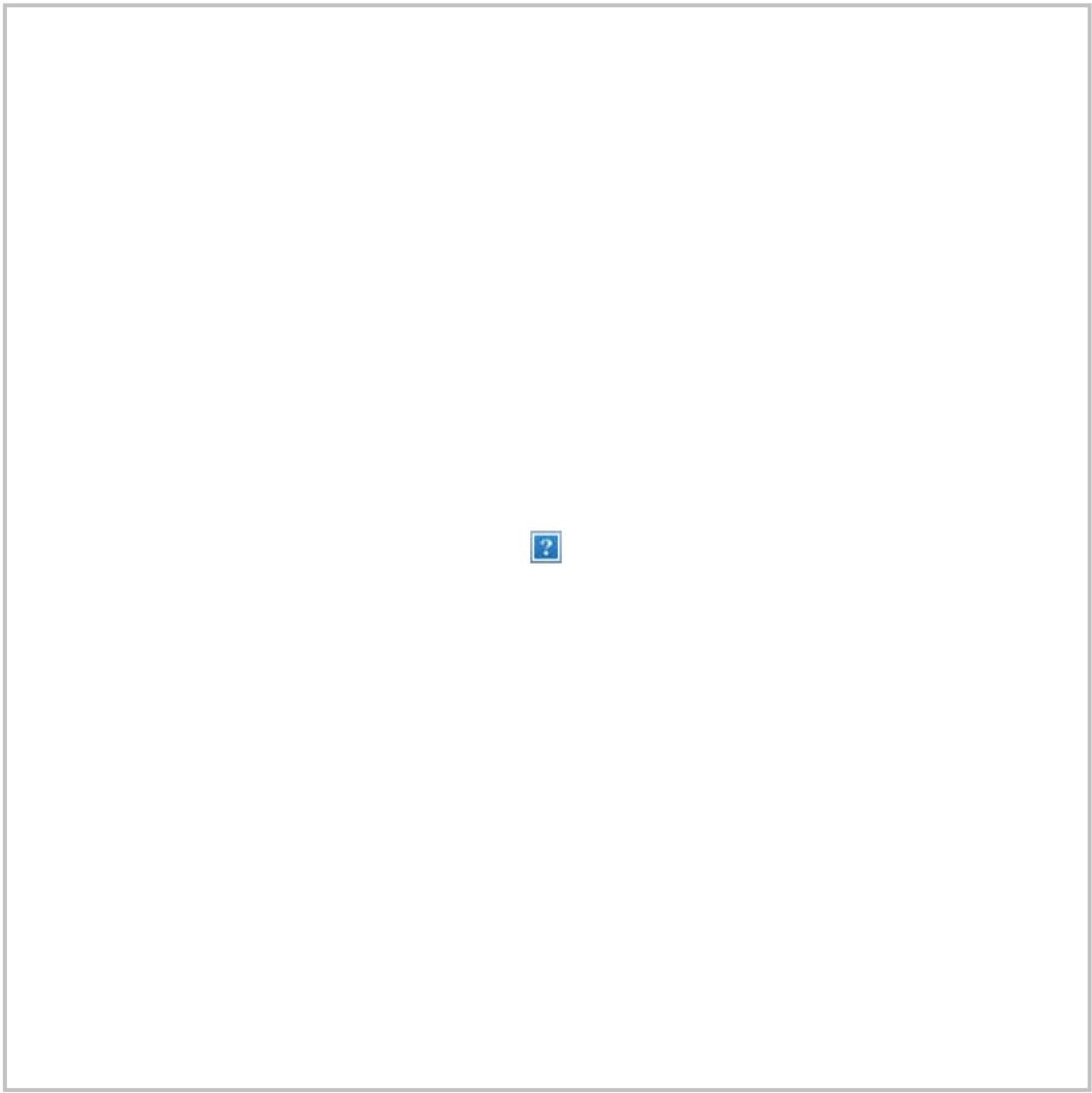
A family in fear: 'Us being separated...is just devastating'

Judy Shepard, whose son Matthew Shepard was murdered in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1998, because he was gay, cut a 1-minute spot for the Clinton Super PAC Priorities USA. "I know what can happen as the result of hate," she says to camera. "So when I see the hate that Donald Trump has brought to his campaign for president, it terrifies me. ... Words have an influence, violence causes pain, hate can rip us apart. I know what can happen as the result of hate, and Donald Trump should never be our president."



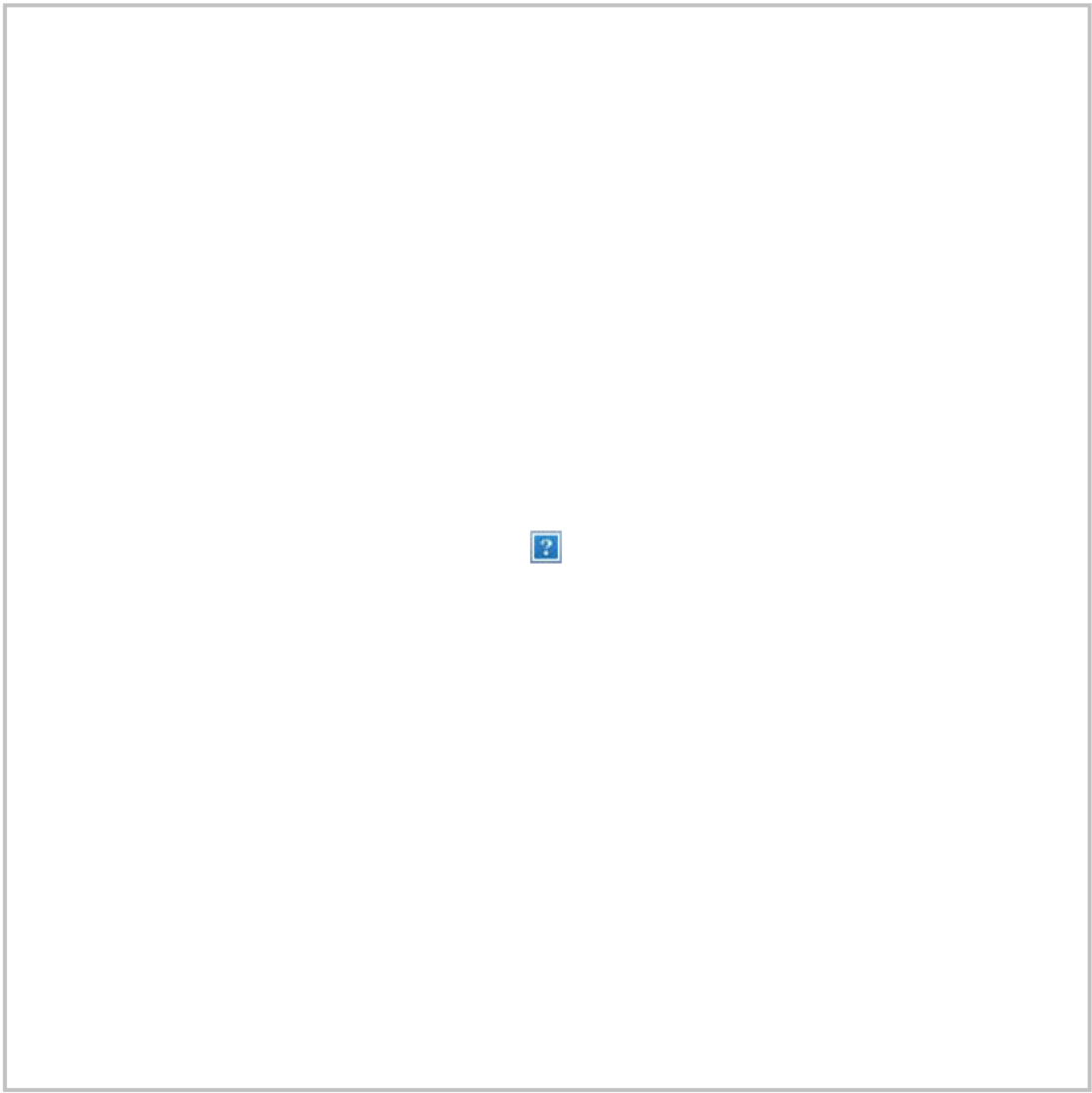
Hate

Bloomberg made an Ocean's Eleven-style explainer about whether the election is rigged:



Ocean's Election: Rigging the System, Vegas-Style

Kathy Griffin taped a video against Trump (warning: profanity):

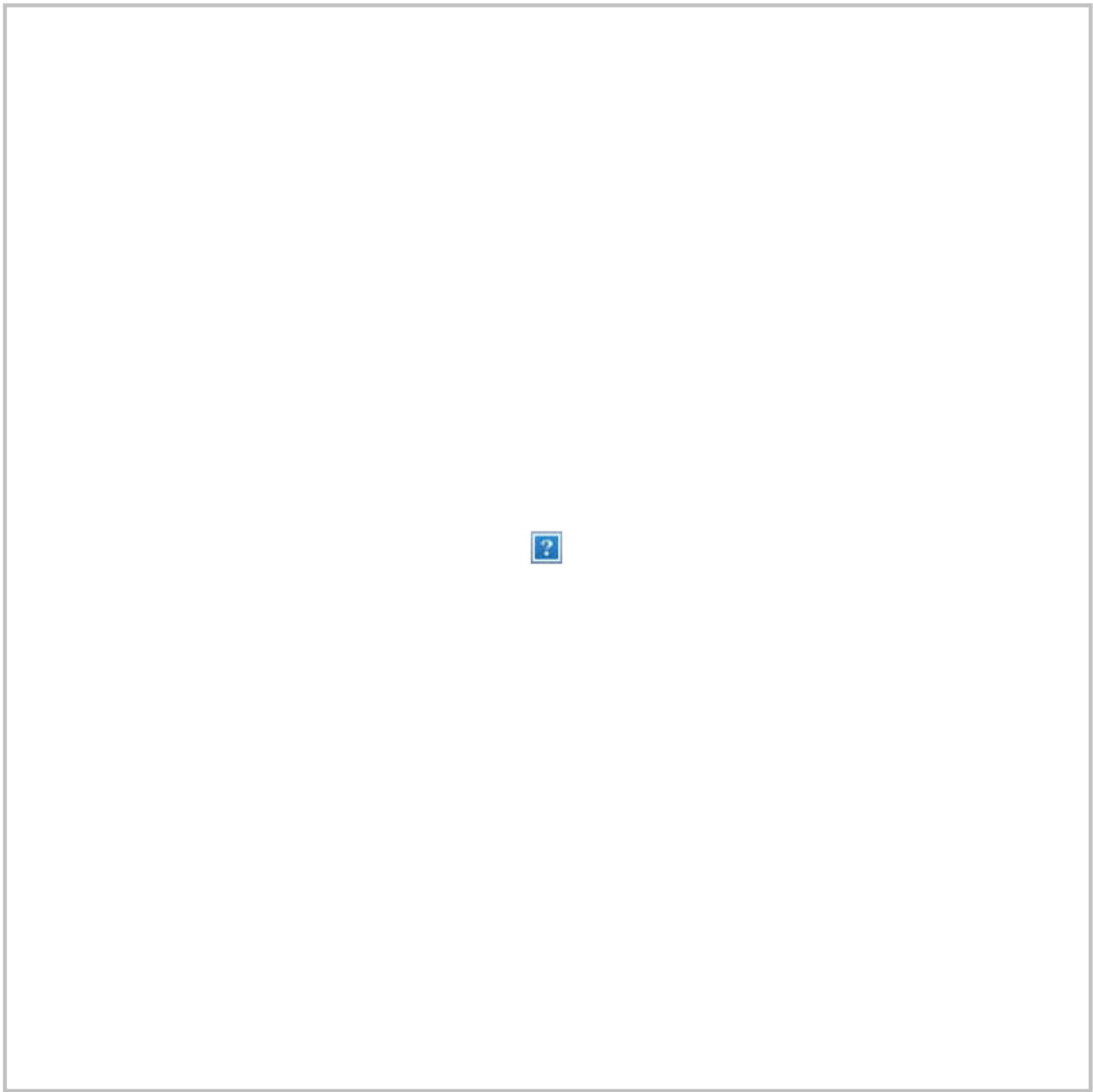


Mirrors | Kathy Griffin | Hillary Clinton

Viceland also used adult language in this Instagram video against Trump:

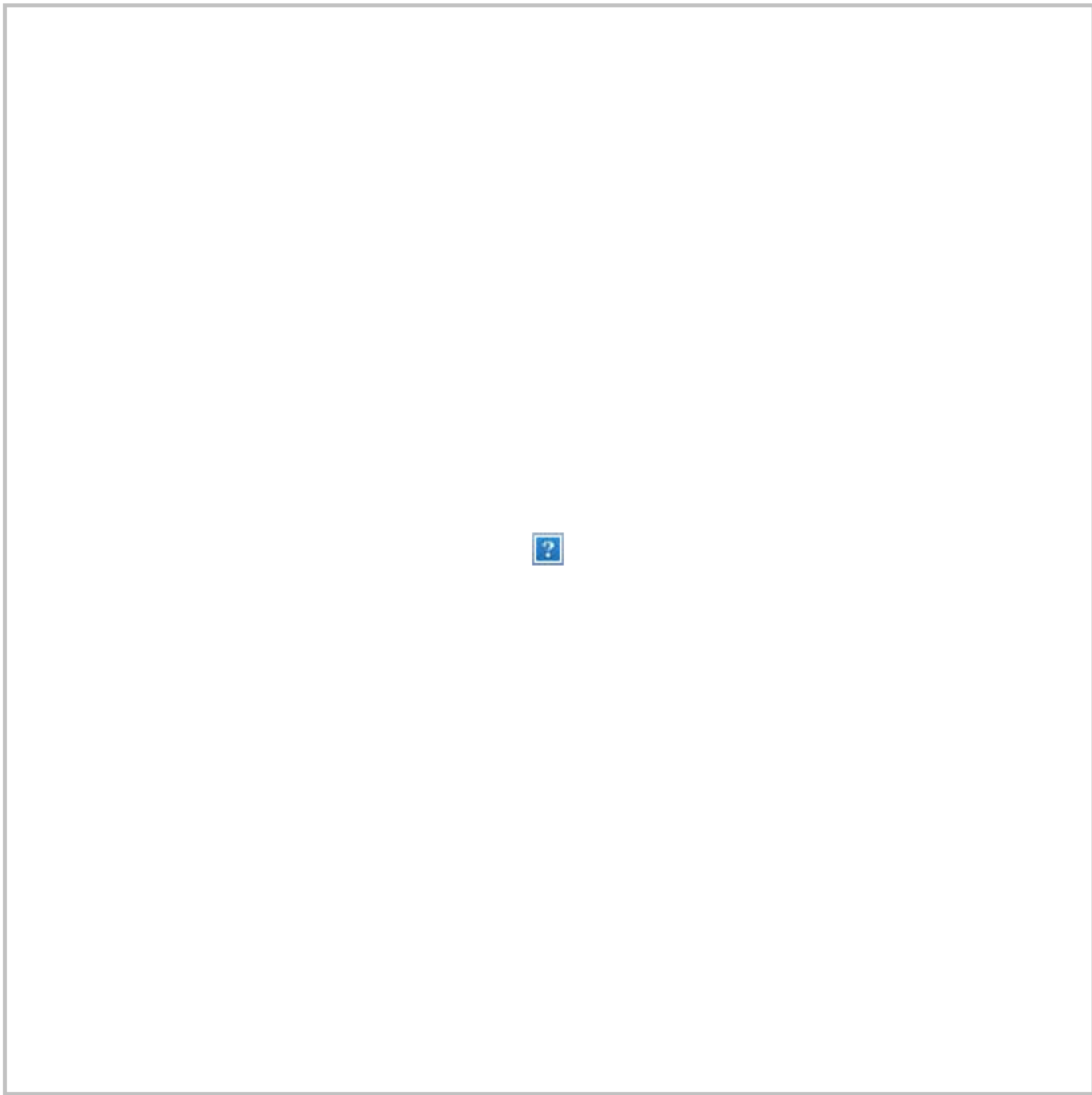


Compare some of what Clinton says in her stump speech to what she told Goldman Sachs bankers behind closed doors:



How some of Clinton's private speeches compare to her public stances

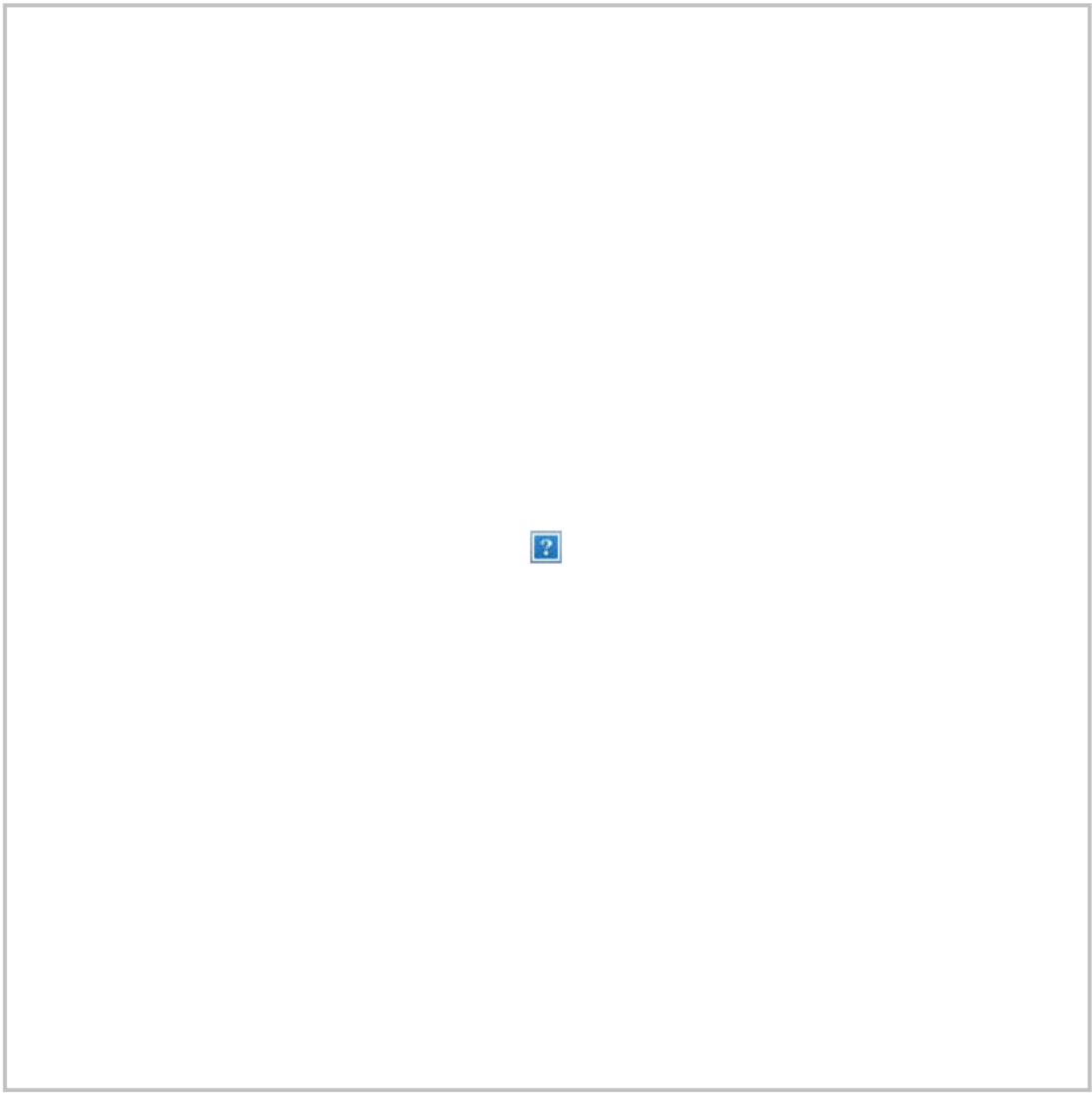
Watch Obama speak about Trump's "whining":



President Obama: "I'd invite Mr. Trump to stop whining..." (C-SPAN)

Finally, in this video, Canadians tell Americans why our country is already great:





Canadians 'tell America it's great'

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The Daily 202: The Supreme Court will be a focus of tonight's presidential debate  
Wednesday, October 19, 2016 9:52:13 AM

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# The Daily 202



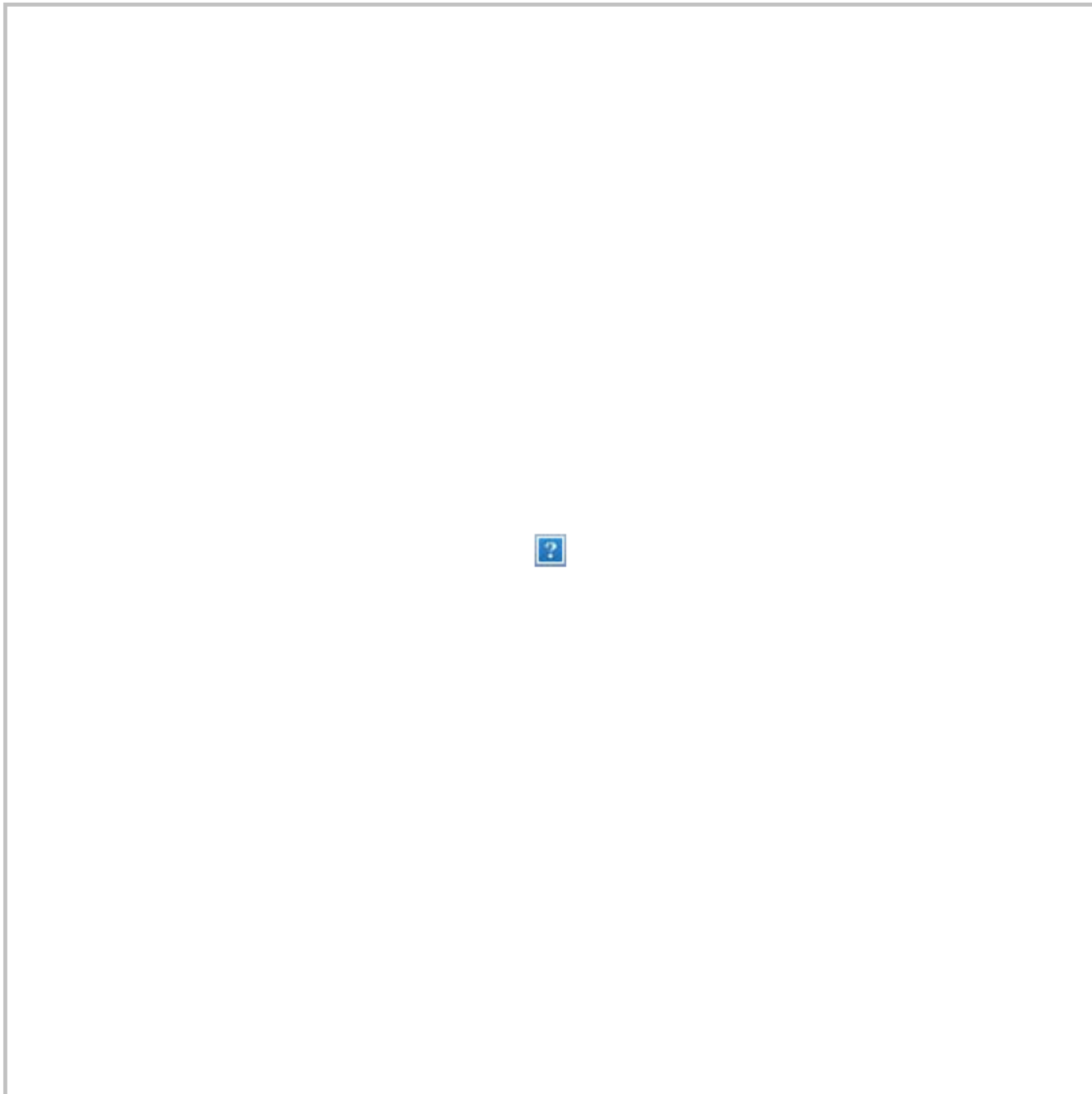
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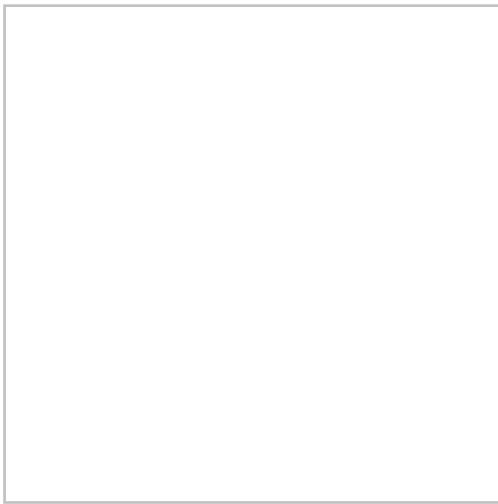


**The Supreme Court will be a focus of tonight's**

## presidential debate



Donald Trump's plane passes Hillary Clinton's plane at McCarran International Airport yesterday. The candidates have come to Las Vegas for their third and final debate. (Brendan Smialowski/AFP/Getty Images)



*With Breanne Deppisch*

**THE BIG IDEA: The Supreme Court is one of six main topics that will be covered during tonight's final debate at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.** The late Antonin Scalia's seat continues to sit empty. An evenly-divided court has begun its new term under a cloud of uncertainty. Assuming Hillary Clinton wins, it remains [unclear](#) whether Republicans will try to confirm Merrick Garland during the lame-duck session to prevent her from putting up someone who is younger and more liberal next year.

**The debate took on new significance this week when John McCain [boasted](#) during a radio interview that Republicans would automatically oppose whomever Clinton nominates.** "I promise you that we will be united against any Supreme Court nominee that Hillary Clinton, if she were president, would put up," the Arizona senator said. "I promise you!"

Attacked by his Democratic challenger, McCain's spokeswoman released a statement walking back his comment. The senator will "thoroughly examine the record of any Supreme Court nominee put

before the Senate,” she said. McCain then [awkwardly avoided](#) a local TV reporter who tried to follow up.

**Republicans, who have struggled to convince voters that they are capable of governing, talked a big game in years past about the need to be more than just “the party of no.” That messaging is gone now. The prospect of four more years in the wilderness suggests that they will move back toward unapologetic obstruction.**

Right now, however, they are in damage control mode. **Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, who is up for reelection in Iowa, promised yesterday to not automatically “stonewall” any Clinton pick.** “If that new president happens to be Hillary, we can’t just simply stonewall,” Grassley said on [a conference call with local press](#).

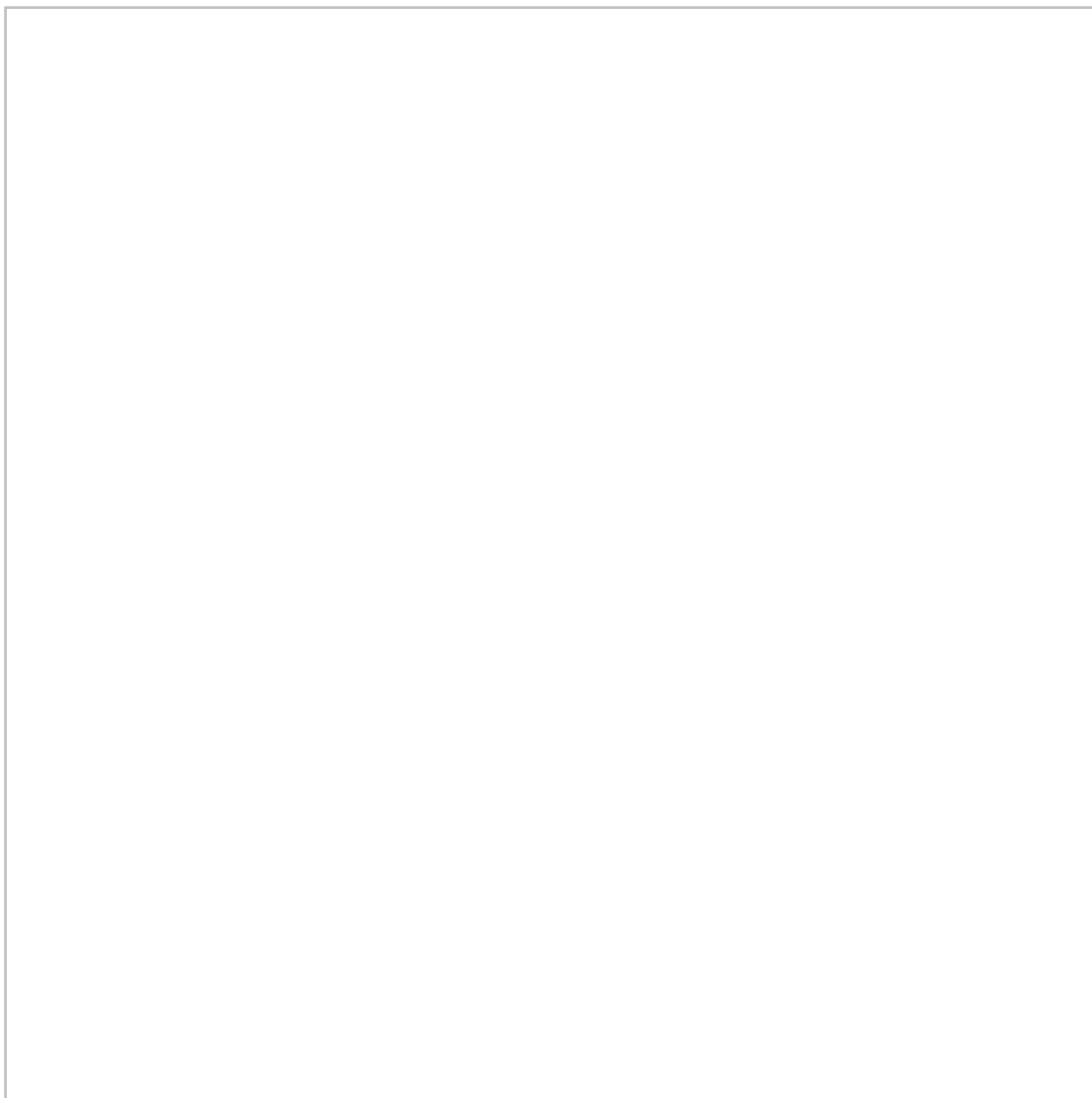
This is a very delicate balancing act. Vulnerable Republican incumbents are trying to convince people who are reluctantly voting for Clinton to support them by promising that they’ll be a check and balance on the excesses of the Clinton presidency. **One man’s “check and balance,” however, is another man’s “obstruction.” Regardless of how you play it, the bottom line is that Republicans are trying to save their majority by promising more gridlock.**

If Republicans hold the Senate, Mitch McConnell will control the floor schedule and Grassley will continue to have the Judiciary gavel. So [they technically could](#) do exactly what they have for the past nine months with Garland.

**Democrats are now favored to win the Senate majority. Even if they run the table, however, they'll only control around 53 seats.**

That is nowhere near filibuster proof. The question then becomes: Which Republicans would cross over to vote for a President Clinton's SCOTUS picks? Could a Majority Leader Chuck Schumer cobble together 60 votes? Or does he invoke the nuclear option and change the rules to allow Supreme Court nominees to be confirmed by a simple majority? **Going nuclear will probably be the easier course, both politically and procedurally**, especially because the Republican blockade of Garland has cost GOP leaders much of their moral standing to oppose such a gambit.

**Contrary to the will of the brilliant men who devised the Constitution, the Senate is increasingly becoming a majoritarian institution. Conservatives, who in principle should be alarmed by this trend, have shortsightedly accelerated it.**



A student standing in for Hillary is captured on the large monitor during a rehearsal for the debate last night at UNLV. (David Goldman/AP)

**-- There are two very important SCOTUS questions that the candidates have avoided giving direct answers to:**

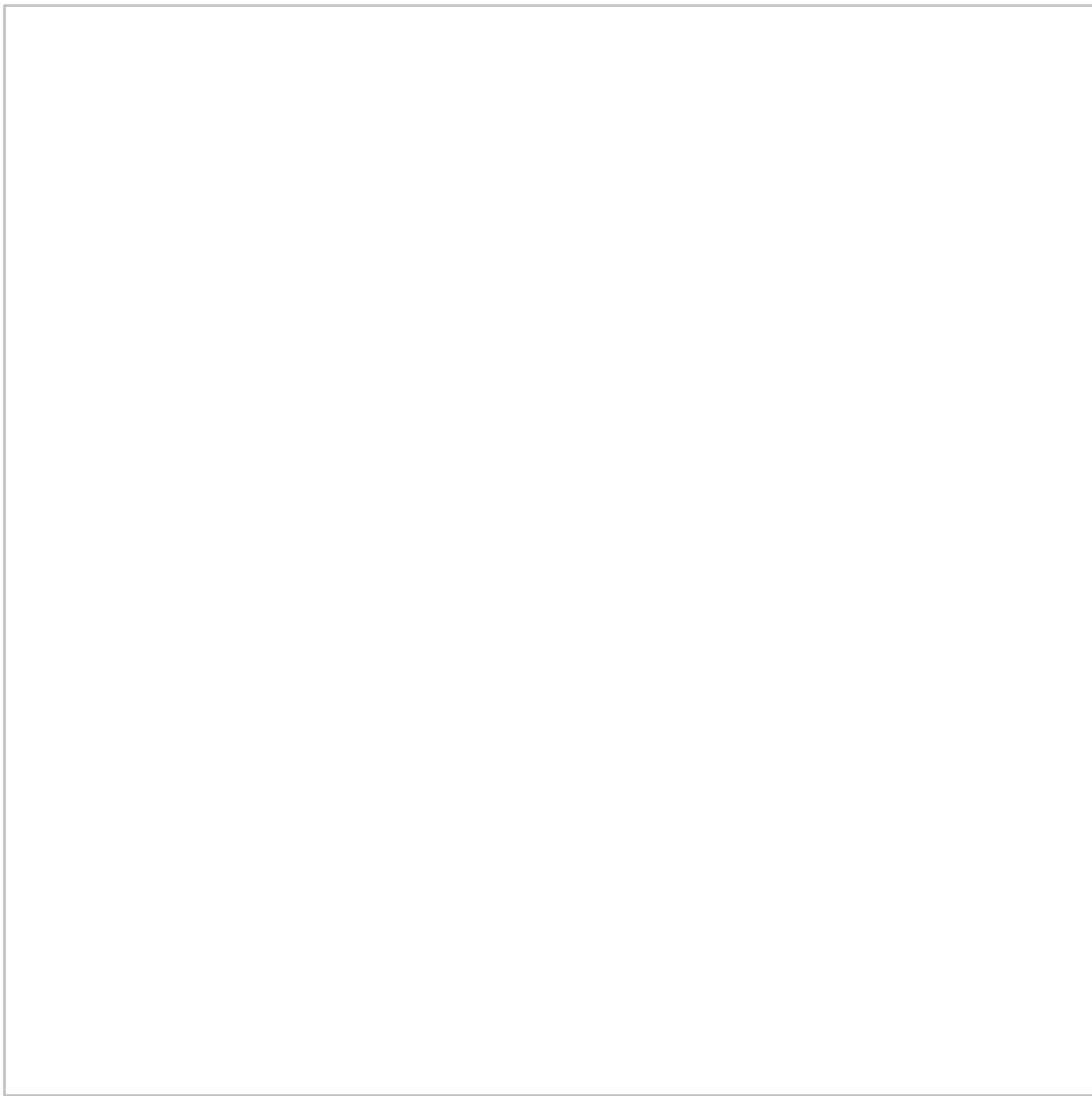
**Will Clinton re-nominate Garland?** Watch for her to once again dodge on this. She's called him "extremely well qualified," and she's relying heavily on Barack Obama to get her across the finish line in November. The president sees getting Garland through during the lame-duck as a top priority and a legacy achievement, but Clinton privately wants to pick someone who is younger and more liberal than

the 63-year-old moderate.

**Will Trump commit to nominating only people who are on his list of 21 potential picks?**

Aides have said the list is definitive, but the reality TV star has suggested during interviews that he might go another direction. And he has a very long history of not being true to his word. A few of the people Trump floated have chastised him. Utah Sen. Mike Lee, on the second installment of Trump's list, subsequently called on the GOP nominee to drop out. And, amusingly, federal appellate court Judge Diane Sykes (who was in the first batch of names released by Trump) ruled earlier this month [against](#) Mike Pence. She said the Indiana governor cannot interfere with the distribution of federal funds to resettle Syrian refugees in his state.





Trump speaks in Grand Junction, Colorado. (George Frey/Getty)

**-- For many conservative intellectuals, stopping Clinton from appointing Scalia's replacement is no longer a good enough reason to support Trump.** Among the Republican politicians who have capitulated, such as Ted Cruz, holding the Scalia seat is a favorite talking point to justify supporting someone who they privately see as dangerously authoritarian. But 29 top conservative legal scholars have signed onto a letter arguing that it is not enough. The "Originalists against Trump" do not believe Trump would protect the Constitution. And they do not trust him to actually pick from his list of

21. “More importantly, we do not trust him to respect constitutional limits in the rest of his conduct in office, of which judicial nominations are only one part,” they write. The group understands that the alternative is Clinton. “Yet our country’s commitment to its Constitution is not so fragile that it can be undone by a single administration or a single court,” they conclude. ([Read the full letter here.](#))

Our [Robert Barnes notes](#) that the signatories include a Northwestern law professor who was one of the founders of the Federalist Society, Steven G. Calabresi; Post columnist George F. Will; and a well-regarded conservative law professor at New York University and the University of Chicago, Richard Epstein. **“The effort was organized by Duke University law professor Stephen E. Sachs and University of Chicago law professor William Baude, a pair of former clerks to Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.”**

**Something to ponder: Will Roberts vote for Trump?** He obviously wants to regain his working majority, but he also hails from Indiana – just like Gonzalo Curiel, the federal judge whom Trump leveled repeated, racially-loaded attacks against. We’ll never know...



Bill greets Melania before the start of the last debate. (Paul J. Richards/AFP/Getty Images)

### **MORE ON WHAT TO EXPECT IN VEGAS TONIGHT:**

-- The other five topics that will get covered from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Eastern are immigration, entitlements/debt, the economy, foreign policy and each candidate's “fitness” to serve as president.

-- Trump's scorched-earth strategy continues. He is bringing as his guests Obama’s estranged half-brother Malik and the mother

**of a Benghazi victim who has accused Clinton of “murdering” her son.** It is unclear whether the campaign will reveal more surprise guests today. Clinton is bringing billionaires Mark Cuban and Meg Whitman in an effort to [rattle Trump over his wealth](#). ([Jose DelReal](#))

**-- Clinton spent much of this week off the trail preparing for their final showdown, a strategy which Trump mocked at a Colorado rally.** He told supporters she was actually at home resting instead. "You know what the debate prep is? It's resting. It's lying down, going to sleep," he said. ([Jenna Johnson](#))

**-- The Clinton campaign has requested that Bill and Melania do not shake hands before tonight's debate.** Last time, Trump planned to parade three women who accused Clinton of sexual assault into the family seating area and force the former president to shake their hands as he crossed the room. ([Jeremy Peters and Maggie Haberman](#), The New York Times)



Chris Wallace moderated the first Republican primary debate in Aug. 2015 in Cleveland. (Aaron Josefczyk/Reuters)

-- **“Chris Wallace’s Debate Role Is a Bright Spot in a Dark Year for Fox,”** by the New York Times’s Michael Grynbaum: Chris is the first Fox journalist to take charge of a general election face-off. “It would be the most consequential night of Fox News’s year — if the network had not just endured the most traumatic period in its two-decade history. [For] the team of Fox anchors and producers (in Vegas) this week, Mr. Wallace’s star turn is a welcome source of pride. And, maybe, some relief. The selection of Mr. Wallace, a veteran broadcaster with a reputation for tough, mischief-making

questions, was particularly bolstering for Fox's news division, which has viewed itself as an unfairly maligned alternative to the network's stable of conservative commentators like Mr. Hannity and Bill O'Reilly."

**-- Politico's Glenn Thrush preemptively declares that "[Clinton will be on the defensive](#)":** "Trump's fitness to lead has, rightly, been the major focus of his conventionally lousy first debate and the national disgrace of his second one. But here's some good news for him! Trump has done such a masterful job of handing Clinton the election that the inevitable focus now is on her! America wants, demands, that final kick-the-tires test, as Barack Obama said of the process – and significant questions remain about her honesty, integrity, judgment and trustworthiness. ... Beatings, like bossa novas, have a predictable rhythm. **Trump's beating (however deserved or self-inflicted) has gone on for too long in terms of the cyclical attention span of modern media, and it's simply Hillary's turn.**"

**-- Trump's odds of turning around his campaign tonight are steep, the [Boston Globe's Matt Viser](#) posits:** "Clinton arrives in Las Vegas for the final debate like a poker player holding a full house, confident and careful. Trump is furiously raising his bet, acting as if he's holding a hot hand, when polls say all he's got is a pair of jacks."

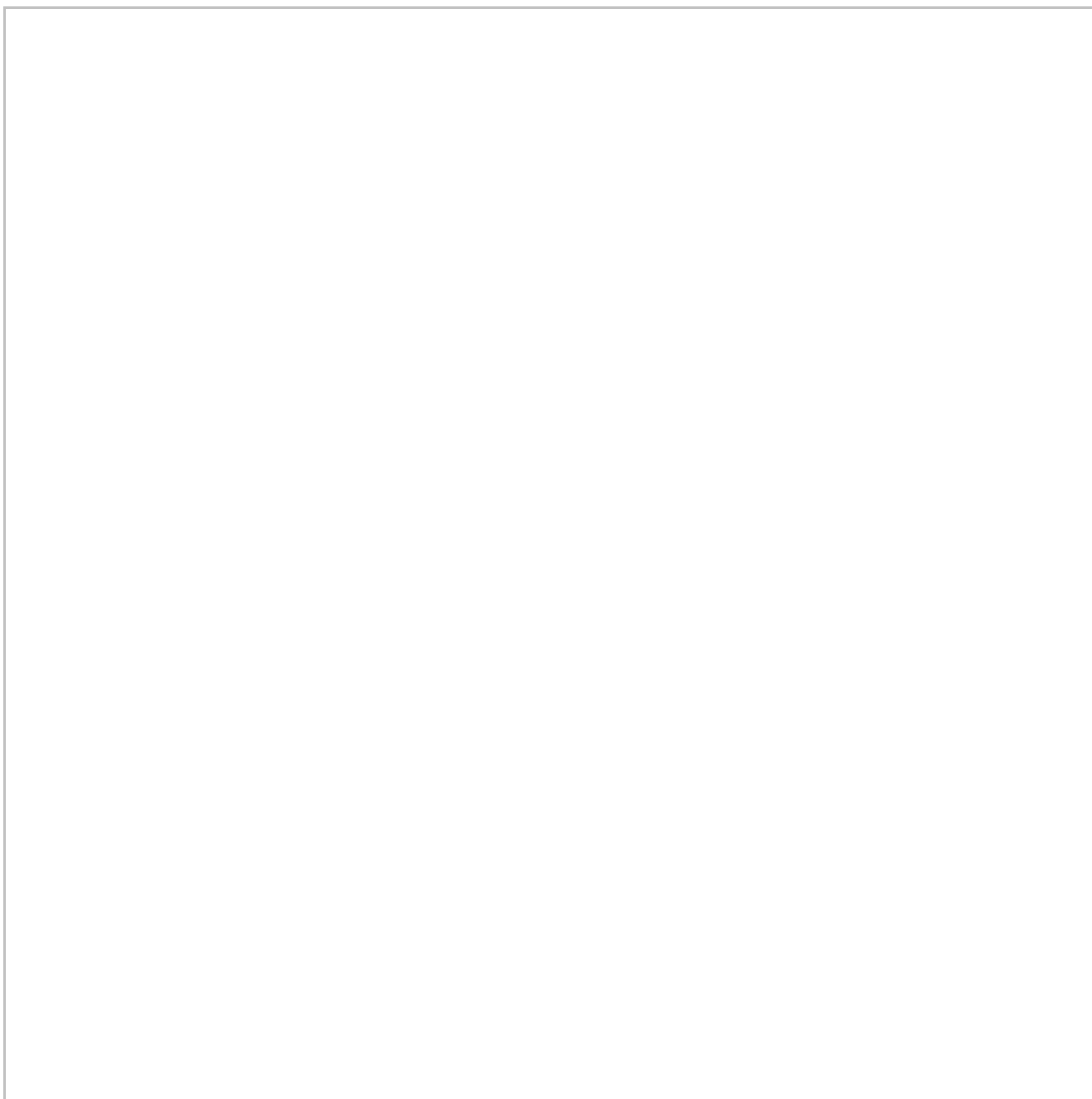
**-- Republicans are praying that Trump does not once again take Clinton's bait, per the Wall Street Journal's [Michael Bender and Laura Meckler](#):** "Democrats want Clinton to articulate a positive vision for the country, rising above the allegations of sexual misconduct and dishonesty that have permeated this election year. ...

Republicans say Trump needs to focus on his popular anti-establishment message and avoid placing any more attention on controversies over his treatment of women or rifts with fellow Republicans. 'For once he needs to make this a race that's not just about him,' said GOP consultant and former Romney adviser Kevin Madden. 'Clinton wants this race to be a referendum on Trump and his lack of temperament, and every time she lays the bait he never disappoints in taking it.'"

Welcome to the Daily 202, **PowerPost's** morning newsletter.  
With contributions from Elise Viebeck ([@eliseviebeck](#)).

[Sign up to receive the newsletter.](#)

**WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING:**



President Obama greets Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi at the White House.  
(EPA/Michael Reynolds)

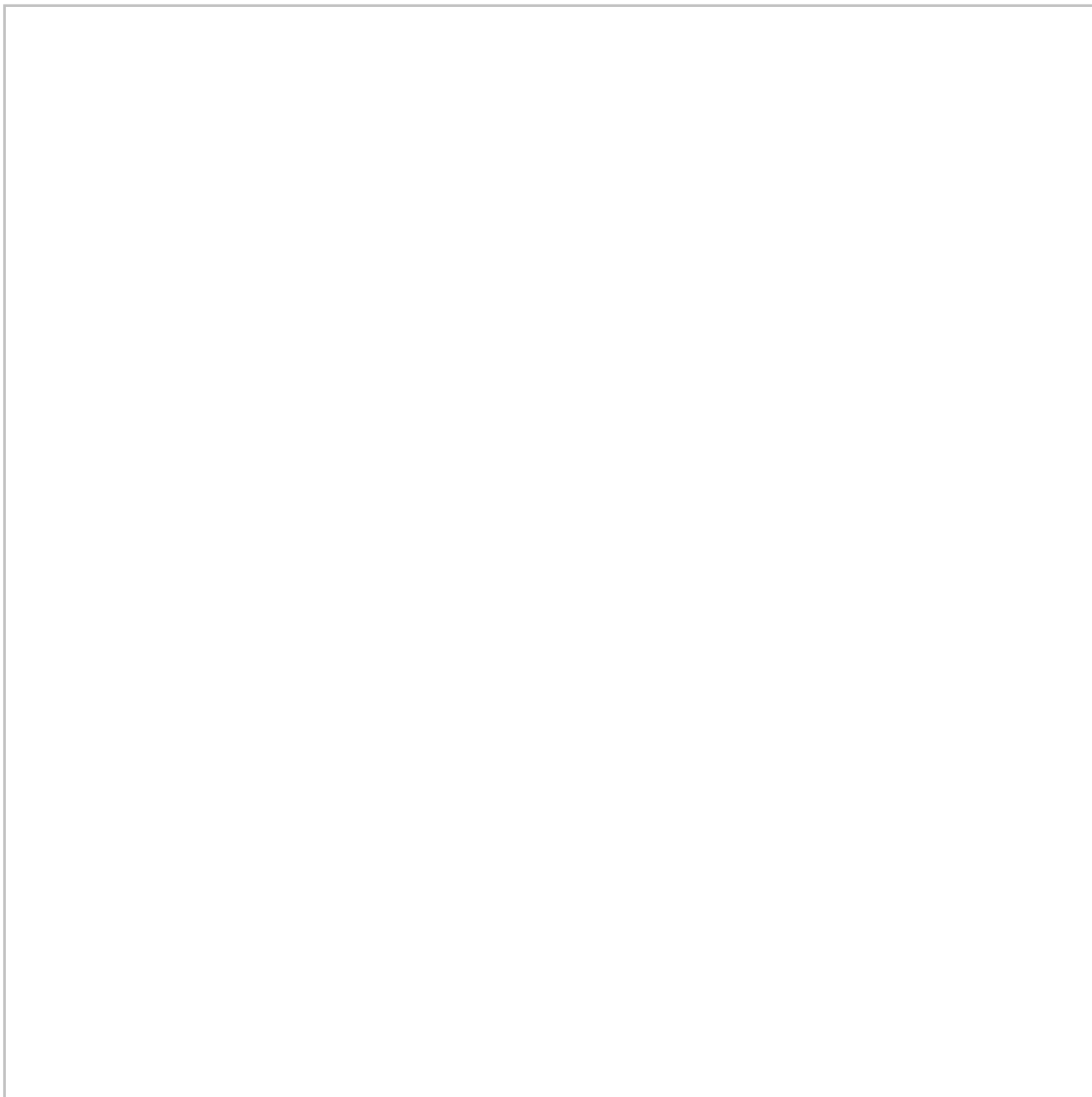
**-- President Obama hosted his final state dinner, honoring Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and his wife at a celebratory -- yet nostalgic -- reception.** “If there was a collective emotion that defined the night it’d be a mix of joy and pain,” [Helena Andrews-Dyer and Emily Heil wrote](#). “Everyone involved in the Obamas’ last black tie gala felt it. From guest chef Mario Batali, who said that knowing this dinner is the last adds its own brand of pride and pressure, to the president himself, who called the swanky swan song ‘a bittersweet moment.’ Held in a tent on the South Lawn dripping with chandeliers



and dotted with mirrored tables to conjure up the Italian 'fresco' technique, the evening featured a stroll through the first lady's kitchen garden ... a four-course meal prepared by Batali and a performance by Gwen Stefani ... But despite the night's obvious symbolism as a denouement the dinner's guests probably took the opening lines of the president's traditional toast to heart: **'In the immortal words of a great Italian American, Yogi Berra, 'It ain't over 'till it's over.'"**

The Obamas rewarded many of their most loyal staffers with seats at the dinner. **Among the 380 guests were the first lady's hair stylist, makeup artist, and personal trainer...**

FLOTUS wore a custom rose-gold chain-mail gown from Atelier Versace. It was a slinky gown with an asymmetrical neckline that slithered like liquid metal down her torso and around her hips. "It was pure Hollywood glamour," [writes Fashion Critic Robin Givhan](#).



The Ecuadorian national flag flies outside their embassy in London today. (Alastair Grant/AP)

**-- Ecuador acknowledged that it “temporarily restricted” the Internet access of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange at its United Kingdom embassy after WikiLeaks posted John Podesta's emails.** A foreign ministry statement said that while it stands by its decision in 2012 to grant Assange asylum, it doesn’t interfere in foreign elections. The ministry didn’t specify the extent of the restrictions on Assange’s cyber access, saying only that the limitations wouldn’t affect WikiLeaks’s ability to carry out its journalistic activities. Do not forget: Assange is hiding out in the

embassy to avoid facing trial for alleged sexual assault. ([Nick Miroff](#))

**-- Marco Rubio urged Trump and the RNC to stop attacking Clinton over hacked emails published by Wikileaks:** "As our intelligence agencies have said, these leaks are an effort by a foreign government to interfere with our electoral process and I will not indulge it," Rubio told [ABC News's Jon Karl in an interview](#). "Further, I want to warn my fellow Republicans who may want to capitalize politically on these leaks: Today it is the Democrats. Tomorrow it could be us."

**-- Speaking of insecure email servers, Trump lives in a glass house.** From Mother Jones' [Joseph Cox](#): "A researcher has found that a number of email servers linked to [Trump's] hotel and others businesses are running horribly out of date software which receive no security patches, and are lacking other precautions for keeping hackers out." A number of mail servers for TrumpOrg.com, a domain registered to The Trump Organization, are using end-of-life software, including the operating system Windows Server 2003 and IIS 6.0. "Running outdated software and operating systems for your publicly facing email infrastructure is problematic, especially when you're a high profile organisation," said security architect Kevin Beaumont. "During an election where cybersecurity is such a big issue, I was a little amazed at what I saw."



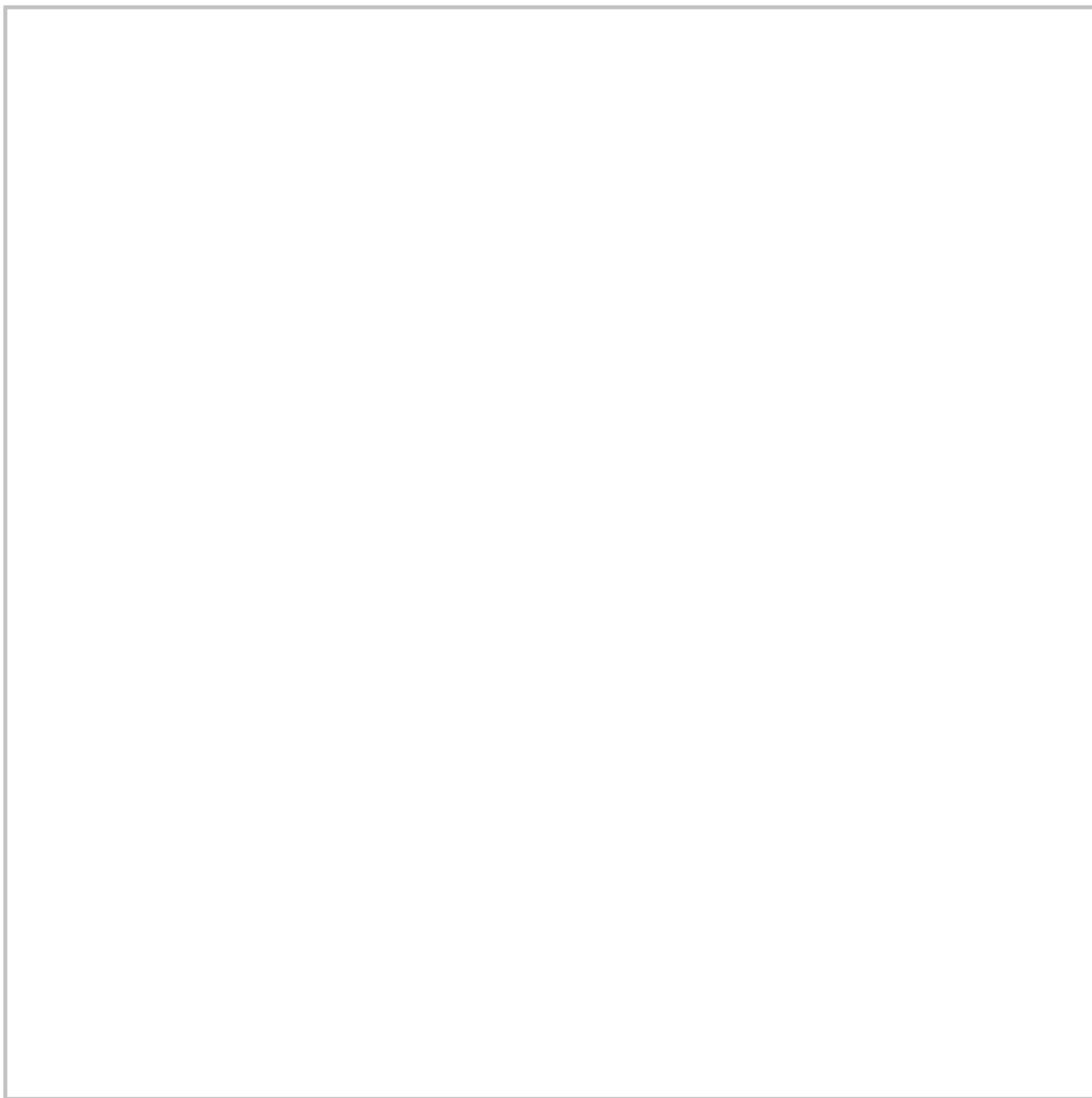
Filipino villagers gather as they prepare for a super typhoon that may hit their village. (EPA)

### GET SMART FAST:

1. **A dangerous super typhoon is spinning like a table saw towards the Philippines, barreling down with Category-5 level winds of 160 mph.** Local emergency managers are warning storm surge could exceed 15 feet when it makes landfall. The storm's arrival comes just days after *another* typhoon struck the country, killing at least two people. ([Angela Fritz](#))

2. **A former Arkansas judge has been arrested and accused of giving lenient sentences to male defendants in exchange for sexual favors – soliciting at least nine men between the ages of 16 and 22 for what he referred to as “community service.”** ([Kristine Guerra](#))
3. **A magistrate judge delivered a victory to a transgender high school student in Illinois, allowing her to continue to use a bathroom and locker room corresponding with her gender identity.** ([Derek Hawkins](#))
4. **More police officers have been killed in the line of duty so far this year than all of last year combined.** But federal statistics also show that being a law enforcement officer has continually gotten safer over the last four decades. Since the 1970s, the death toll for cops decreased by more than half. ([Mark Berman](#))
5. **Warring parties in Yemen agreed to a 72-hour ceasefire.** The U.N. hopes the temporary truce will lead to a “permanent and lasting end” to the conflict. ([AP](#))
6. **A new lawsuit accuses public schools in Flint, Mich., of failing to meet obligations to screen children for lead exposure.** The complaint alleges that the city’s public school system has also failed to provide critical services and interventions to counter the effects of lead exposure. ([Emma Brown](#))
7. **The University of Maryland agreed to hire more staff to address sexual assault on campus, after reports that a faculty shortage was slowing down open investigations. Student government leaders proposed a student fee to help fund the office.** ([Susan Svrluga](#))

- 
8. **Samsung is setting up pop-up phone exchange booths at airports across the country, allowing busy travelers to trade in Galaxy 7 smartphones that were recently banned from all U.S. flights.** But it's unclear what devices the kiosks will offer in replacement – and, as [Hayley Tsukayama](#) notes, a crowded airport is probably not the ideal place to make such a major purchase.
  9. **The Transylvania castle that inspired the “Dracula” novels will be open to two brave souls on Halloween night, thanks to an Airbnb contest.** Winners will spend the night in the 14th century digs, eating by candlelight and sleeping in velvet-lined coffins. ([Cleve R. Wootson Jr.](#))



Members of the Iraqi Special Operations Forces outside Mosul today. (Azad Lashkari/Reuters)

-- A dispatch from the front lines --> [\*\*“Evidence of a ‘difficult fight’ ahead as forces move toward ISIS-held Mosul,”\*\*](#) by **Kareem Fahim and Loveday Morris**: “To defend a few miles of unremarkable road in northern Iraq, flanked by farmland, the occasional factory and flyspeck hamlets and villages, the Islamic State militants seemed to spare no effort. They loaded a Volkswagen with explosives and secreted remote-detonated bombs ... They burned tires and dug large tunnels in houses ... The arsenal ultimately failed to protect the militants. But it seemed to slow down the action, tying up a large

contingent of Iraqi soldiers as they tried to clear the road and villages of booby traps, a few wearying feet at a time. There were still 12 grueling miles left to travel before reaching the city's outskirts. The struggle for Mosul ... is the largest and most complex so far in the battle against [ISIS] militants, who have been digging in for a fight. Residents who have recently fled the area ... say the Islamic State has been erecting concrete barricades and filling trenches with oil that can be set on fire to slow advancing forces. 'It's going to be a tough fight and a difficult fight,' Obama said on Tuesday. 'But my expectation is that ultimately it will be successful.'"





Makia Nunes, moments after she became a U.S. citizen yesterday, kisses a cardboard cutout of Hillary. She registered to vote immediately after her Naturalization Ceremony in Los Angeles. (Frederic J. Brown/AFP/Getty Images)

## **THE RACE CONTINUES TO MOVE AWAY FROM TRUMP:**

-- The chairman of a pro-Trump super PAC, Ed Rollins, told [Laura Ingraham](#) that it “would take a miracle at this point” for Trump to win.

-- Pre-spinning the loss, Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway says she cannot believe Clinton is not winning by a bigger margin given her numerous built-in advantages: “She has endless money. She’s got a lot of the media. She has a very popular president and first lady campaigning for her,” Conway [told Anderson Cooper](#). “I will tell you, I am mystified as to why she can’t get to those 52, 53 percent numbers in some of these states given the disadvantages we’re handed every day.”

-- Las Vegas bookies now have Clinton as [a six-to-one favorite](#).

-- A Washington Post/Survey Monkey poll of 15 battleground states gives Clinton a “decisive advantage” over Trump in the competition for Electoral College votes. From [Dan Balz and Scott Clement](#): “Based on the results ... along with assumptions of the likely outcomes in other states that have consistently voted for one party or the other, [Clinton] holds leads of four percentage points or more among likely voters in states that add up to 304 electoral votes. Trump, [meanwhile], has the advantage in states with an estimated electoral vote total of 138. Arizona, Florida, Ohio and Texas, which account for 96 electoral votes, remain as toss-ups.”

**Down-ballot Republicans continue to outperform Trump in our survey:** “Democrats need a net gain of five seats to take outright control -- four to exercise control if Clinton becomes president. The results showed Democrats with leads of four or more points in three states with GOP incumbents: New Hampshire, North Carolina and Wisconsin. Republican incumbents lead in Florida and Ohio, in the latter by a wide margin. Meanwhile, races in Nevada, for a seat currently held by Democrats, and Pennsylvania, for a seat now in Republican hands, continue to be close.”

**-- A [Bloomberg Politics poll](#) shows Clinton with a 9 point national lead (50-41). The two tied last month.** Trump is losing support among both men and those without college degrees. “This poll shows movement toward Clinton with all the right groups it takes to win,” said pollster J. Ann Selzer. “Their alignment with Clinton is a formidable change in the algebra.”

**-- An [Arizona Republic/Arizona State University](#) poll shows Clinton AHEAD in ARIZONA by 5 points.** Waning support for the Republican nominee does not appear to have shifted down-ballot, however, with McCain leading by 11 points over Democratic challenger Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick. **Support for the presidential candidates also appears to be somewhat baked into the cake, with two-thirds of voters saying they were not influenced by the previous two debates.** Of respondents who indicated the debate was influential, 16 percent said they were more likely to back Clinton. 9 percent said the same of Trump.

**-- The [University of Houston](#) finds Trump is only ahead by 3 points in Texas (41-38).**

-- [St. Norbert College](#) shows Clinton leading by 8 points in Wisconsin (47-39).

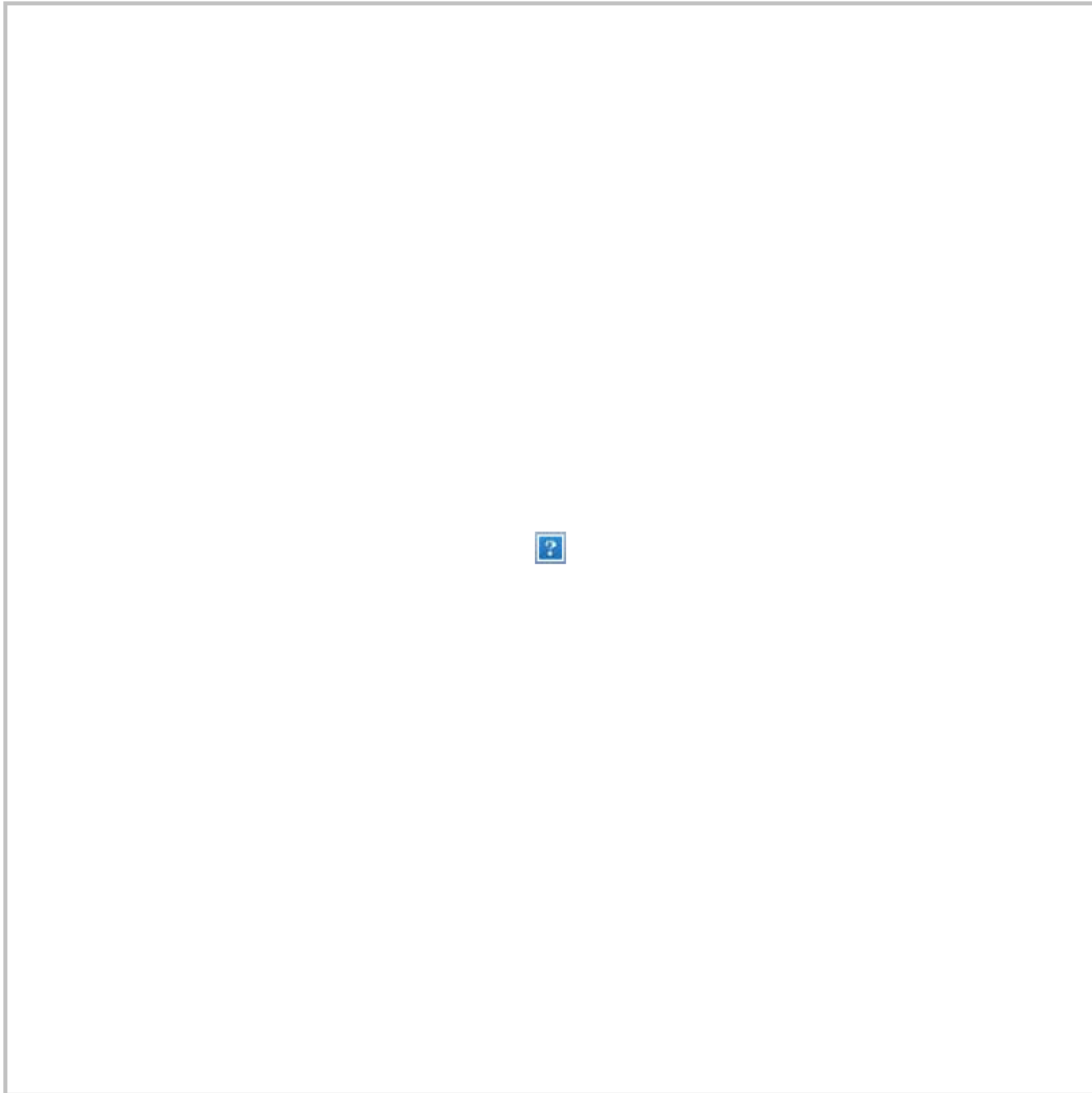
-- [Monmouth University](#) puts Clinton up 7 points in Nevada (47-40). Her surge in the state is largely attributed to younger, non-white voters moving into her column over the past month.

-- A [Fox News national poll](#) shows Clinton up 6 points (45-39).

-- The Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun conducted a poll asking which candidate people thought would be more appropriate as the U.S. president. They found that only 3 percent of Japanese picked Trump, while 73 percent preferred Clinton. The rest had no opinion. The wording is non-traditional, but WaPo pollster Scott Clement checked out the paper's methodology and says it is legit. This will not surprise close poll watchers. [Previous international surveys](#) have found Trump to be exceptionally unpopular.

-- **Fear of an imminent terrorist attack is one of the top concerns of people across the globe**, with most expecting extremist groups will acquire weapons of mass destruction, according to a new poll conducted in eight countries. From [Carol Morello](#): "The [survey, commissioned by the Center for Strategic and International Studies](#) (CSIS), showed that many people think their governments are not doing enough to combat violent extremism. And a majority in every country polled, including the United States, overwhelmingly approved all 21 options presented to them — among them, requiring identification cards for citizens and visitors; rigorous screening of immigrants; bans on incendiary religious speech; and monitoring of

phone calls, emails and social media."



Clinton takes a selfie with the crowd at a voter registration rally at Wayne State University in Detroit. (Reuters/Lucy Nicholson)

## **THE DAILY HILLARY:**

**-- Former FBI agent Brian McCauley pushed back on allegations of a "quid pro quo." He confirmed that he spoke to a top State Department official about changing the classified status of one of Clinton's emails, as well as a long-standing FBI request for additional staffing in U.S. embassies, but he denied that any**

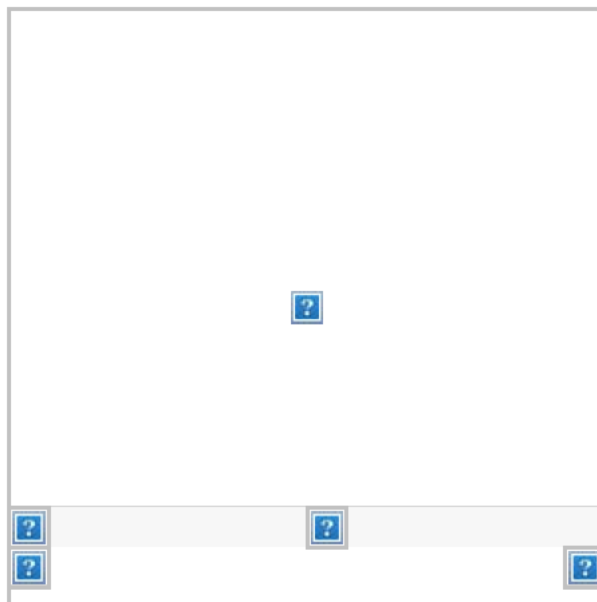
**inappropriate collusion ever took place.** In an interview with [Matt Zapotosky](#), McCauley acknowledged that he offered to do a favor in exchange for another favor, but before he had any inkling of what Kennedy wanted. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015. McCauley said that when he learned the missive concerned the attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, he told Kennedy he could not help him. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015.

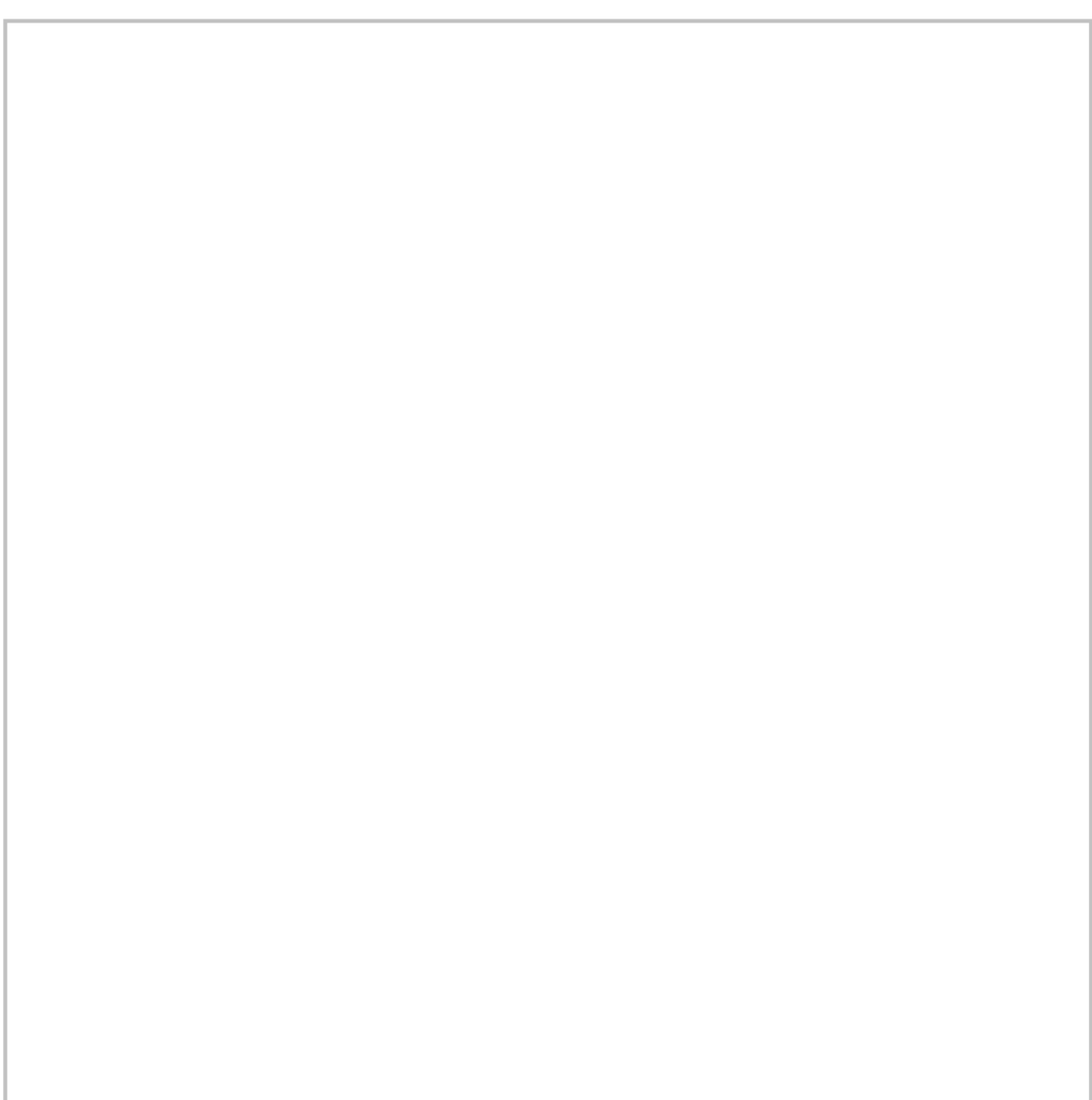
**-- “Black activists and organizers, frustrated with the Clinton campaign’s inability to engage young voters, have taken it upon themselves to challenge their peers to consider the consequences if Republicans take the White House,”** [Vanessa Williams reports](#). “They also have encouraged young voters to focus on state and local elections, because those officials make decisions about how police departments and schools are run, issues that more directly affect their lives. Younger African Americans, like many millennials, are not excited about this year’s presidential election ... [but] because Trump’s campaign has laid bare racist attitudes, the seeming indifference of black millennials to the election has sparked broad discussion within the African American community.”

**-- Seventy Nobel Laureates endorsed Clinton, arguing that her election is “crucial for safeguarding freedom and preserving a constitutional government.”** Signatories include world-renowned

experts in science, medicine and economics, such as chemist Peter Agre, economist Robert Shiller, and physicist Robert Woodrow Wilson. Separately, a group of 140 conservative writers urged voters to reject Trump, calling him “most dangerous to our nation’s founding ideals” in an open letter. Several former Republican White House staffers are on the list. ([New York Times](#))

ADVERTISEMENT





John Podesta boards the Clinton campaign plane in White Plains, New York, yesterday en route to Las Vegas. (Lucy Nicholson/Reuters)

-- **An early draft of Clinton's V.P. list:** John Podesta in mid-March emailed Clinton a preliminary list of names to consider for her running mate, organized into what he termed "rough food groups." WikiLeaks posted it yesterday, and [the Journal wrote it up](#):

The first group included her **Latino options**, including Secretary of Labor Tom Perez and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julián Castro.

The second consisted of **black candidates**, including Cory Booker and Eric Holder.

The third was **white men who could help in a swing state**, including Tim Kaine, Terry McAuliffe and Sherrod Brown.

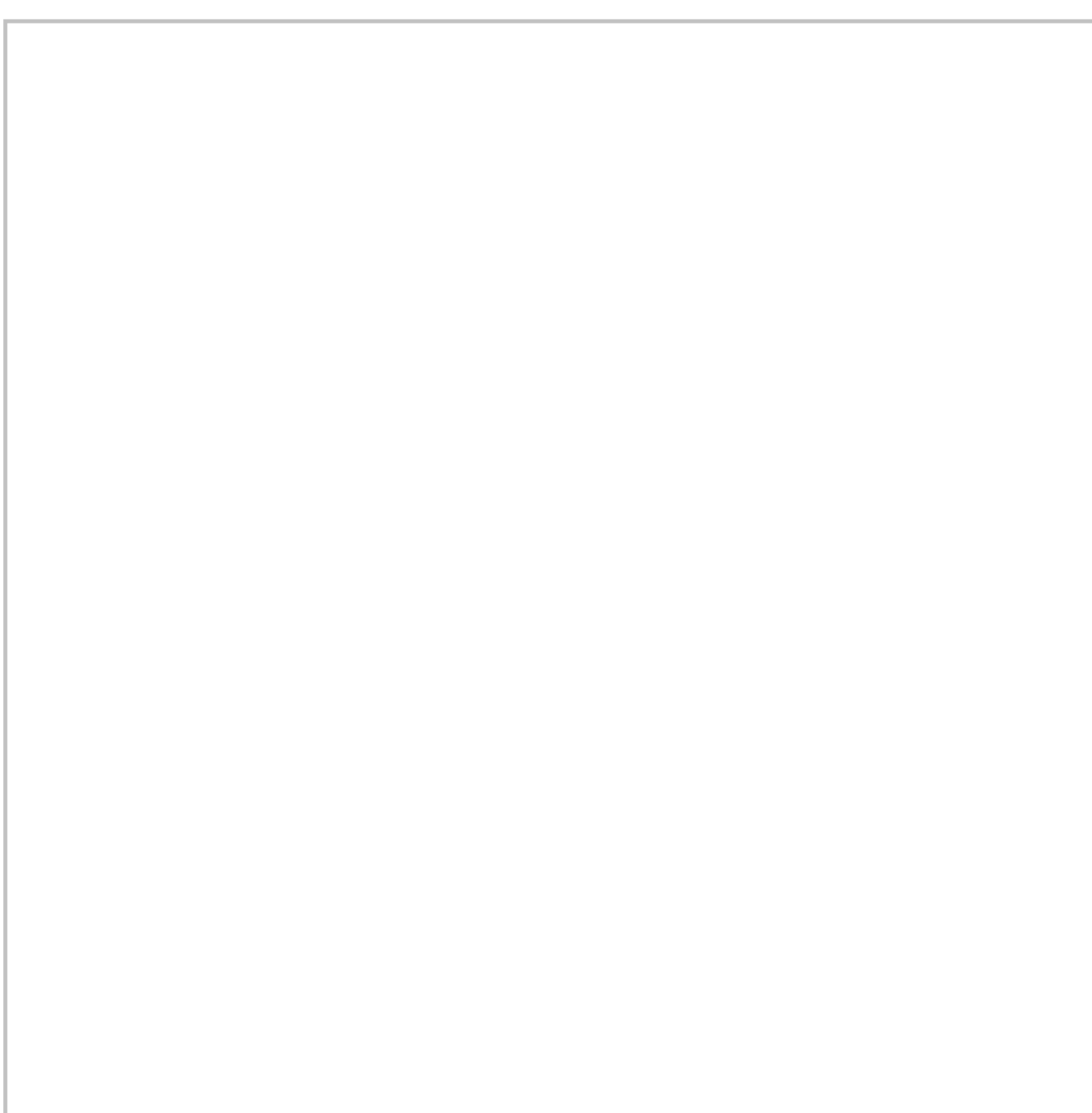
Another section included **seven women**, including Elizabeth Warren and Jeanne Shaheen.

He also suggested **three military names**, including retired Marine Corps Gen. John Allen.

Podesta also floated **corporate options**, including Bill Gates, Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, Michael Bloomberg; Apple CEO Tim Cook and Coca-Cola Co. CEO Muhtar Kent.

The final category had just one name: **Bernie Sanders**.





Melania, Ivanka, Eric and Donald Trump, Jr. wait for the start of the second debate St. Louis. (John Locher/AP)

## **THE DAILY DONALD:**

-- **People Magazine published six stories** from friends and colleagues of Trump accuser Natasha Stoyneff, corroborating her accusation that the Republican nominee forced himself on her in 2005. Two people who went on the record are now People editors - deputy East Coast editor Mary Green and East Coast editor Liz McNeil. Another is Stoyneff's former journalism professor, who says she called him looking for advice immediately afterwards. And

yet another friend went on the record to back her claims that she ran into Melania Trump on Fifth Avenue after the assault. The report comes as both Donald and Melania have denied the story and threatened legal action.

**-- Video surfaced yesterday of Trump attacking Condi Rice in 2006: "I wish she was a b\*\*ch," he said.** "I don't care if she's a lovely woman. I want somebody that can go and make deals. She goes to countries, nothing ever happens. Except sound bytes." When asked if she had any response to the New York Daily News report on Trump's remarks, the former secretary of state emailed [CNN](#): "Can't wait until November 9!"

**-- Trump's alleged misconduct has started a national conversation about sexual assault.** From [Katie Zezima](#): "The debate has been particularly painful for many victims of sexual assault, who now must endure nonstop coverage of allegations of groping and kissing without consent — along with backlash against the women who made the claims about Trump. But in the 2016 presidential election, the issue has become sharply divided along partisan lines, including claims by some Trump allies that the behavior described by Trump's accusers ... might not be considered assault. The resistance against the accusers is particularly awkward for the Trump campaign, which simultaneously argues that women who accused Bill Clinton of wrongdoing years ago should be believed." GOP strategist Ashley O'Connor said that Trump is essentially saying, "You need to believe the people who have come forward and accused [Bill]. You need to believe that [Hillary] was attacking these women. But don't believe the women who have come

forward against me.”

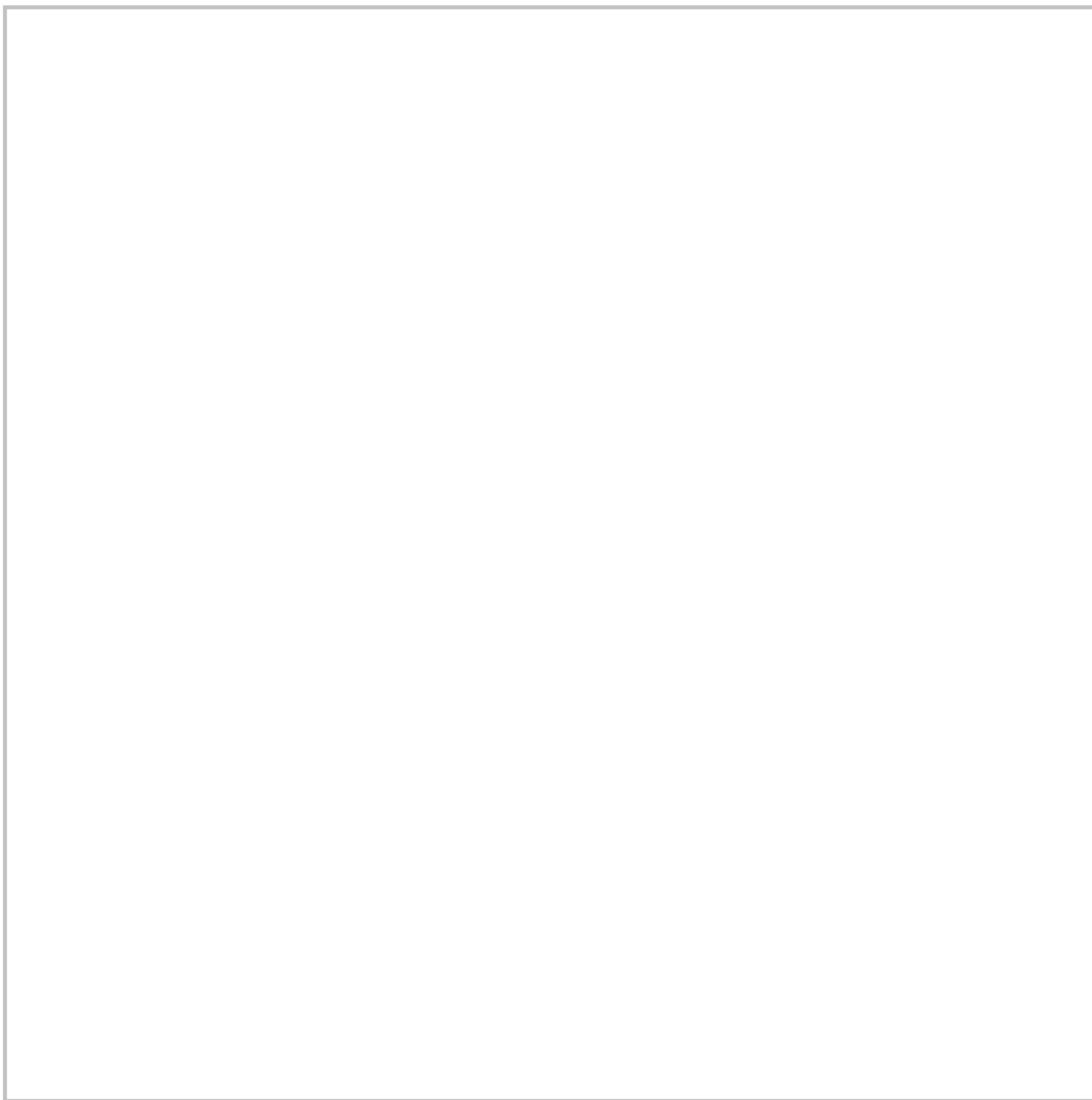
**-- Melania is taking a page from the old Hillary playbook:** “Until now, Melania Trump has declined to fulfill the mundane tasks of political wives, saying her duties to her young son are more important than the demand that a spouse go along for the ride to ‘humanize’ a candidate,” [Karen Tumulty writes](#). “Now, however, she has found herself in a time-honored duty for a political wife when a sex scandal hits — cleanup. [But] even as she defends her husband, [Melania] is willing to go only so far: In a moment where the script would appear to call for her to share a little more about ‘the man I know,’ she offered no personal glimpses of their lives. There was nothing more revealing than what one might hear in a campaign ad — outside, perhaps, her observation that she feels like she is living with two boys, not one.”

**-- Ivanka addressed her father’s lewd 2005 remarks for the first time, telling [Fast Company](#) that his conversation with Billy Bush was “clearly inappropriate and offensive.”** “I’m glad that he acknowledged this fact with an immediate apology to my family and the American people,” she added in a statement.

**-- Donald Jr. has made a series of offensive statements during interviews with shock-jock radio hosts.** CNN’s Andrew Kaczynski unearthed a [trove of controversial remarks](#) from the candidate’s son:

- **He joked about the Aurora movie theater shooting *on the same day 12 people were killed*:** After footage was played from a witness recounting the tragedy, Trump Jr. quipped that the survivor will still give the film “two thumbs up.”

- **He joked about child abuse at beauty pageants:** "They yell at the kids like, yeah 'You didn't do good, you forgot to turn! You forgot your turn!'" a host said, depicting the role of a stage parent. "The kids, they're crying," Trump Jr. said. "I just wanna play with Barbie." "She beats me when you're not here," said the host. "She's like limping," added Trump Jr., mocking a child's voice. "Help me, help me." **Trump Jr. added of the moms at beauty pageants, "They're all fat. Ugly."**
- **On not being able to mock overweight people:** "By the way you can't ... even make fat jokes now ... that's almost the worst one," he said. "It's easier to, like, do a racial thing, than it is a fat one because everyone knows they're fat and they get really offended."



Trump tells supporters to 'watch' St. Louis, Philadelphia and Chicago for voter fraud

**-- Doubling down on his rigged election rhetoric, Trump yesterday provided his supporters with a list of three cities where they should watch for corruption on Election Day.** "Take a look at St. Louis. Take a look at Philadelphia. Take a look at Chicago," Trump said in Colorado. "Look, look, if nothing else, people are going to be watching on November 8. Watch Philadelphia. Watch St. Louis. Watch Chicago, watch Chicago. Watch so many other places." (Two of those cities are in states that are not considered competitive, [Jenna Johnson notes](#).)

**-- Local election officials are panicking that Trump's reckless rhetoric will lead his supporters to bring guns to polling places, but they're mostly powerless to do anything about it:** "The Prince William County (Virginia) electoral board ... considered seeking a one-day ban on weapons at polling places located on private property but was rebuked by a gun-friendly state legislator," [Patricia Sullivan reports](#). "Del. Robert G. Marshall (R-Prince William) sent a letter to the board pointing out that it has no power to ban guns from polling places except for schools and courthouses, where weapons are prohibited by state law. ... Virginia's election officials have been discussing on their private email list the possibility of intimidation or violence Nov. 8 and talking about what to do about unruly observers. ... Seventy of Prince William's 91 polling places are in schools, with the remaining 21 in churches, fire halls and community centers. Firearms are allowed in county government buildings, such as fire stations, libraries and community centers."

**-- Trump called for a Constitutional amendment to put in place congressional term limits, but he provided no details about the details.** ([Jenna Johnson](#))



Supporters of Nicolas Maduro display a giant inflatable dummy depicting late President Hugo Chavez in Caracas. (Juan Barreto/Getty)

-- **Venezuelan journalist and political scientist [Francisco Toro](#) argues that Trump really is much more like Nicolás Maduro than Hugo Chavez:** “Again and again, since taking over in 2013, Maduro has run roughshod over the constitution in ways Chávez never dared to ... [and] for Venezuelans, the past year has been an object lesson in how dangerous this approach can be. Last week, we followed this crazy dynamic off the deep end, when the court overturned 800 years of constitutional practice, dating back to the original Magna Carta, ruling that when the constitution says the legislative branch has to

vote on the national budget, it means the president can just approve budgets on his own. ... **Having your democracy commit suicide under the lure of a charismatic demagogue is not the kind of experience you can fully make sense of unless you've lived it in your own skin.** Before 2016, no explanation I could give my American friends was enough. Now, my American friends can just turn on CNN and watch it happening live.”

### **THE BATTLEGROUND:**

-- **A civil rights group filed a federal lawsuit to force Virginia to extend its voter registration period, after the state's online system crashed on Monday.** The technological glitch prohibited registration from an unknown number of participants. Some have estimated the number to be in the “tens of thousands.” ([Laura Vozzella](#))

-- **Pro-Clinton super PAC Priorities USA announced it will begin airing ads in two Senate races and will start airing television and radio ads in Georgia to boost Clinton.** “New ads will support Gov. Maggie Hassan in the New Hampshire Senate race against Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte and Katie McGinty in the Pennsylvania Senate race against Sen. Patrick J. Toomey,” [Abby Phillip writes](#). “The super PAC also plans a new seven-figure television ad buy in Georgia in addition to new radio ads targeted at African American voters. The state has not been won by the Democratic presidential nominee since 1992.”

-- **DNC officials issued an apology after one of its campaign buses was recorded illegally dumping sewage into a Georgia**



**storm drain, calling the leak an “honest” but “unacceptable” mistake.** The driver of the bus – adorned with larger-than-life faces of Clinton and Kaine – said the vehicle’s sewage tank was full and leaking out. A guy in an auto parts repair store spotted him and record it. ([Katie Mettler](#))

**-- The race for Rep. Barbara Comstock’s House seat in Northern Virginia has tightened.** From [Jenna Portnoy](#): The Cook Political Report is moving the race up to toss-up, while the Rothenberg & Gonzales Political Report already considers it a toss-up district, tilting to the Republican. “Experts consider the district among the most competitive in the nation despite lackluster fundraising numbers from Democratic challenger LuAnn Bennett and evidence [Trump] might not be the anchor on down-ballot candidates some had expected,” Portnoy writes. The two will face off this morning for the final debate of the campaign.

**-- “[Clinton Challenges Trump for a Traditional Republican Bloc: White Catholics](#),” by the New York Times's Jason Horowitz in Philly:** “Since the election of Ronald Reagan, white Roman Catholics have flocked to Republican nominees for a raft of reasons, including their stances on social issues like abortion and same-sex marriage. But this year, something seems different. ‘Trump is the exception to the rule,’ said 67-year-old Carol Robinson, leaving an afternoon prayer meeting in Philadelphia. ‘He’s a loose cannon.’ Roman Catholics are the country’s second-largest religious group after evangelical Protestants, and they are as diverse as the country itself, with young liberals, cultural conservatives and, increasingly, Democratic-leaning Hispanics.”

**One quiet influencer could be Pope Francis**, wh emphasizes inclusion and the welfare of the poor over divisive issues like abortion and homosexuality. In February, he suggested Trump “is not a Christian.”

**-- Harry Reid reflects on when Trump used to be one of his donors in [an interview with Paul Kane](#):** “Reid found a priceless piece of memorabilia recently while sorting through 34 years of congressional papers. It’s a picture of Reid with [Trump], inside the real-estate developer’s Manhattan home, both men smiling. He’s pretty sure it’s from 1992, when [he] was running his first Senate reelection bid and when [Trump] was happy to help Democrats. Reid appreciated Trump’s generosity. ‘He wasn’t much of a big shot then, neither was I,’ Reid recalled ... Over the years when Trump was a reliable donor to Senate Democrats, Reid saw no signs of a future Republican presidential candidate who he would later eviscerate as a ‘racist’ and a ‘human leech.’ Now, heading into political twilight, the former boxer is clearly relishing what is essentially his last campaign through attacks on Trump ... ‘I’m kind of an unusual politician,’ he said.”



Libertarian Lucy Brenton, Democrat Evan Bayh and Republican Todd Young debate in Indianapolis last night. (AP Photo/Michael Conroy, Pool)

## **SENATE DEBATES:**

-- **“Indiana’s Senate race got personal Tuesday,” the [Indianapolis Star’s](#) Maureen Groppe and James Briggs write.**

“After weeks of attacking each other in campaign commercials, former Sen. Evan Bayh and GOP Rep. Todd Young directly accused each other of not representing Hoosiers’ interests in their [sole debate] ... Young repeatedly charged Bayh, a Democrat, with following the orders of Washington insiders and looking out for

himself. 'Evan Bayh took the money and ran,' Young said after criticizing Bayh's vote for the Affordable Care Act. 'He joined a major lobbying firm in Washington, D.C., and he represented clients that needed relief from the very problem he created from Obamacare.' Bayh said Young has voted against the needs of veterans, seniors and workers who are losing their jobs to overseas competition. And he accused Young of lying about his record. 'Congressman Young has told so many whoppers here tonight, it's hard to keep track,'" Bayh said.

**-- The final debate between Sen. Ron Johnson and Democrat Russ Feingold also turned personal, the [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel's Bill Glauber reports](#):** "Skirmishing over campaign finance, national security, the economy and the presidential candidates, the men engaged in a feisty 90-minute clash ... With polls showing a tight race, there was little room for error as the candidates sought to shore up their base support while reaching out to the small number of undecided voters. In a sense, the debate was six years in the making as the two men entered the closing stretch of their rematch race. Throughout the debate, Feingold claimed that Johnson 'didn't have a plan' on issues. Johnson fired back, 'Senator Feingold is always going to have a plan to grow government.'" "I will stand with the people of this state," Feingold said. "Senator Johnson stands with the corporations, the billionaires and the multi-millionaires." In rebuttal, Johnson said he "understands what it's like to work": "I'm the working man," he said. "I've worked hard all my life."



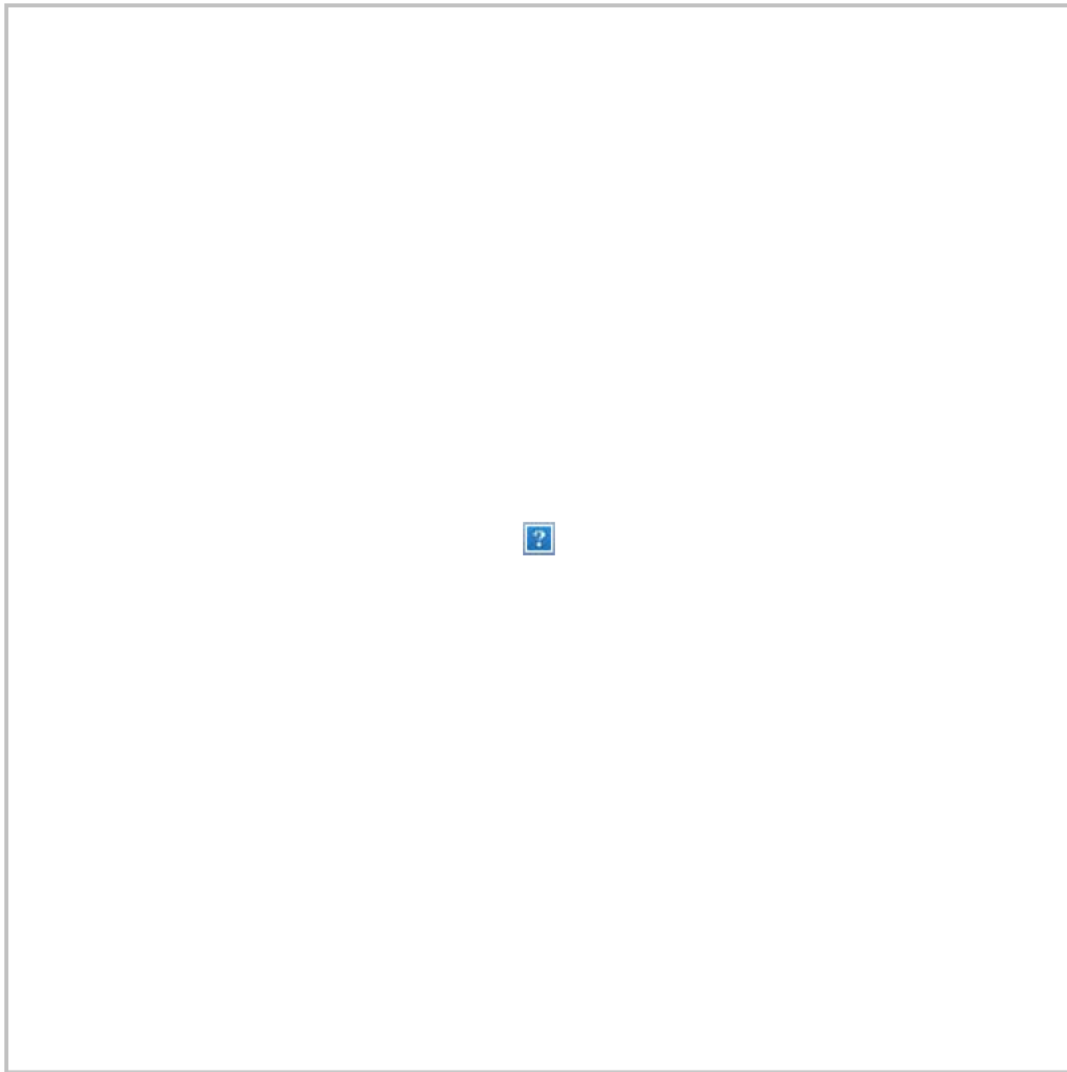
A pan handler sits with a "Give me \$1 or I'm voting for Trump" sign in Manhattan.  
(Carlo Allegri)

### **IT'S SILLY SEASON:**

**-- A Wisconsin woman was arrested after she spread peanut butter on 30 cars that she believed belonged to Trump supporters. But it turns out the cars actually belonged to members of a local conservation club!** "Witnesses said 32-year-old Christina Ferguson stormed into the club meeting on Monday night, holding what a Portage County deputy's report described as a 'family-size jar of low-sodium, creamy natural Jif,'" [HuffPost](#) reports. "Officers

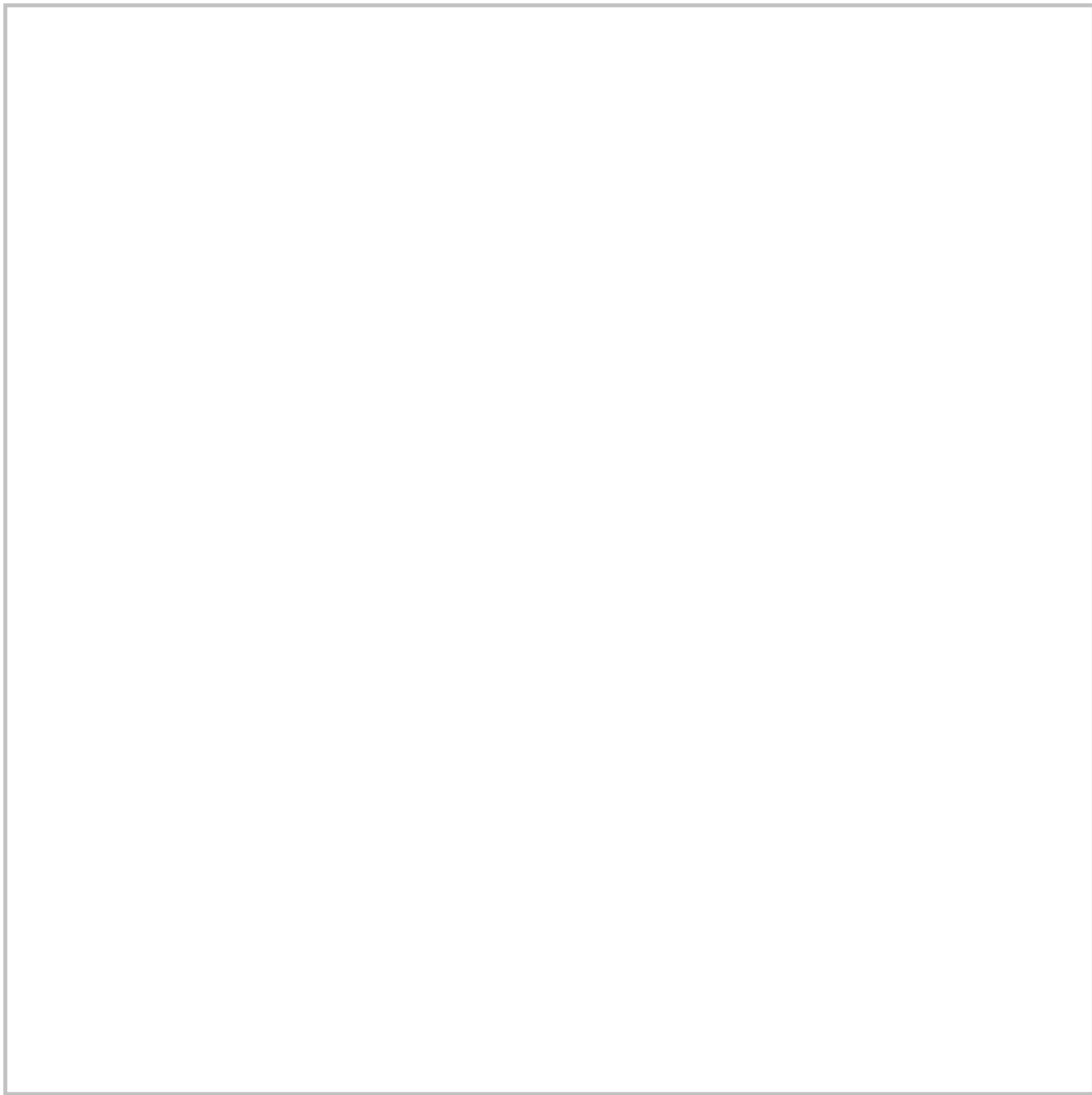
said Ferguson grew emotional as she explained how much she loved Clinton and hated Trump. She then explained why she'd misused peanut butter. 'Peanut butter is better than fire-bombing,' the officer quoted her as saying. She added that Trump wants to fire-bomb everybody in other countries."

**-- A naked, hoofed statue of Hillary prompted a scuffle in Manhattan. An outraged Clinton supporter destroyed it while the artist tried in vain to save it, the [New York Post](#). ([Travis Andrews](#))**



**SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:**

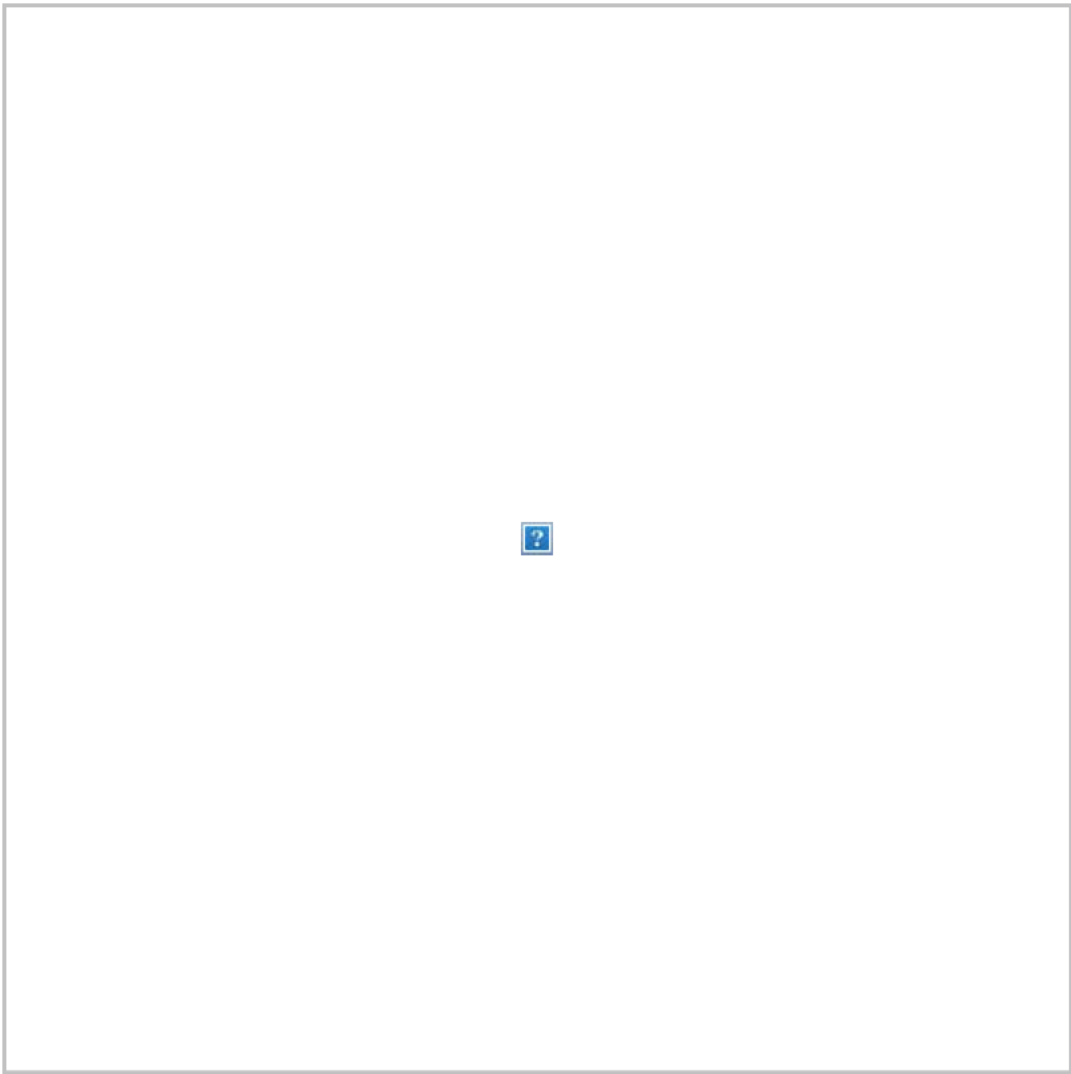
**Over 62 million people on Facebook in the U.S. posted about, shared, liked or commented on content related to Trump over 931 million times in the last month.** The chart below shows the unique number of people on Facebook engaging in the conversation about each candidate – as well as the number of interactions those people generated. Interactions represents the total aggregate number of likes, posts, comments and shares made about a particular candidate within the timeframe. The interactions figure includes not only the activity on the candidate's page, but all of the likes, posts, comments and shares about that candidate from throughout Facebook:



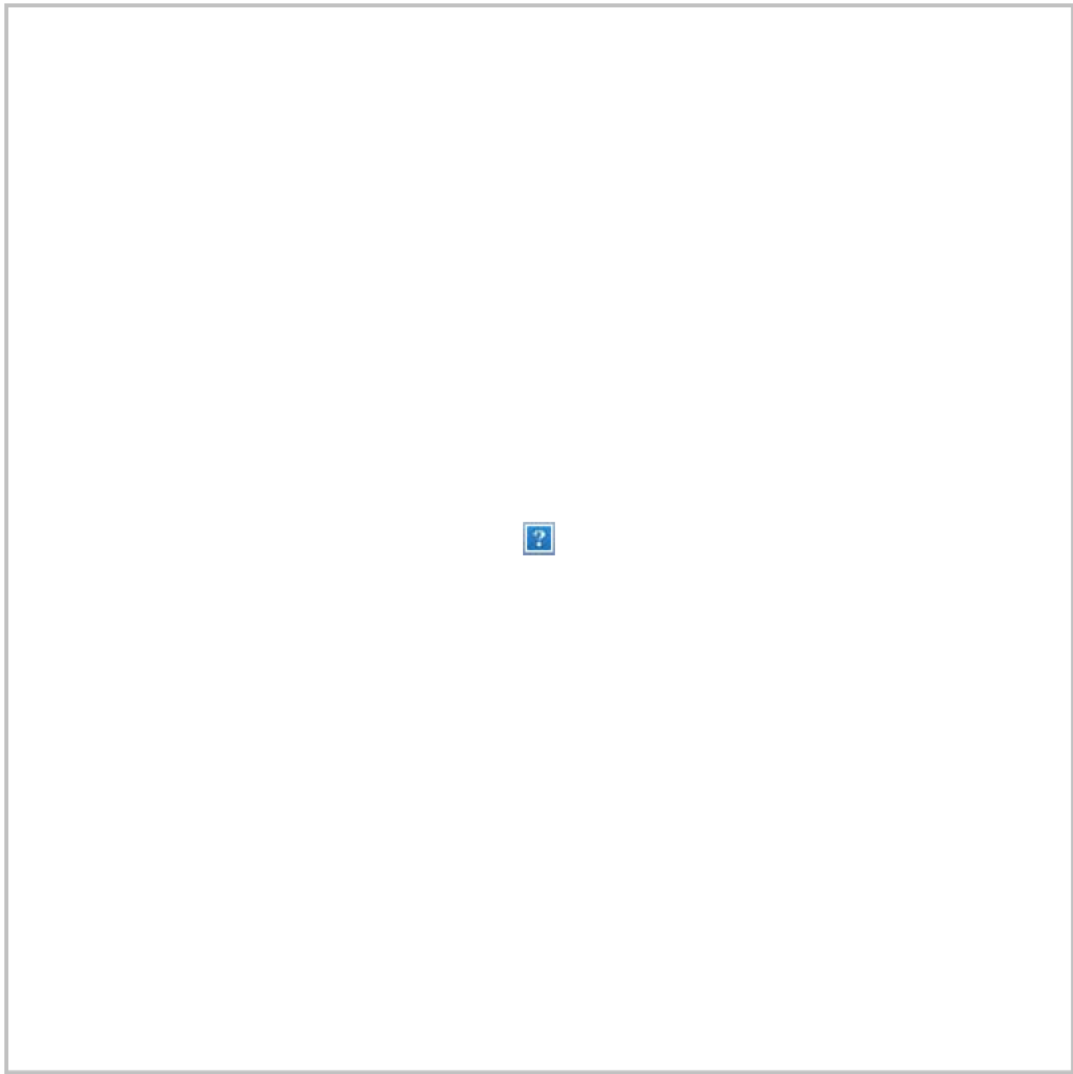
**The top five most talked about political topics on Facebook over the past month:** 1. Crime & Criminal Justice; 2. Religion; 3. Taxes; 4. Government Ethics; 5. Racial Issues.

The Onion is on the lookout for late-breaking Trump news:

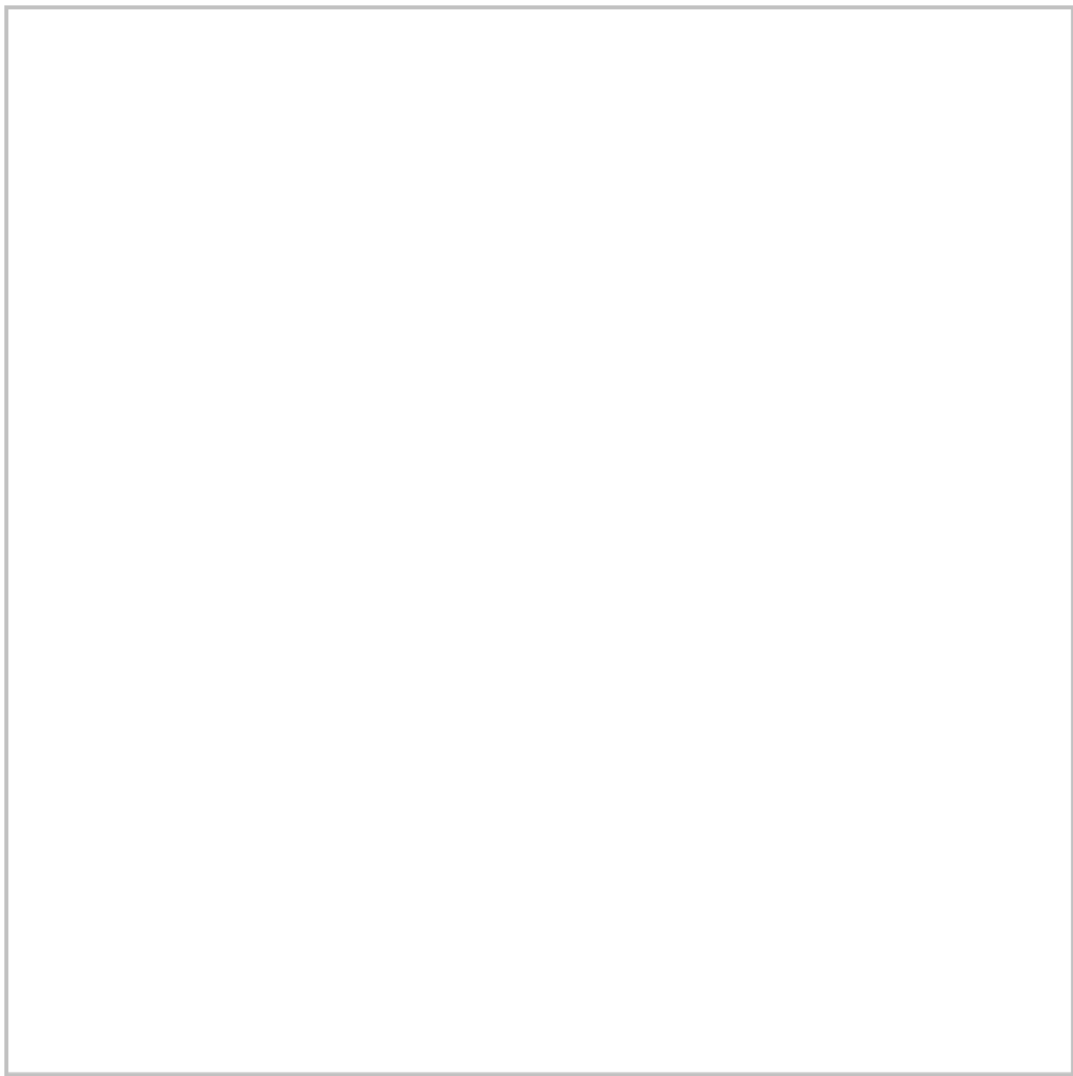




Coming soon to a Las Vegas billboard:

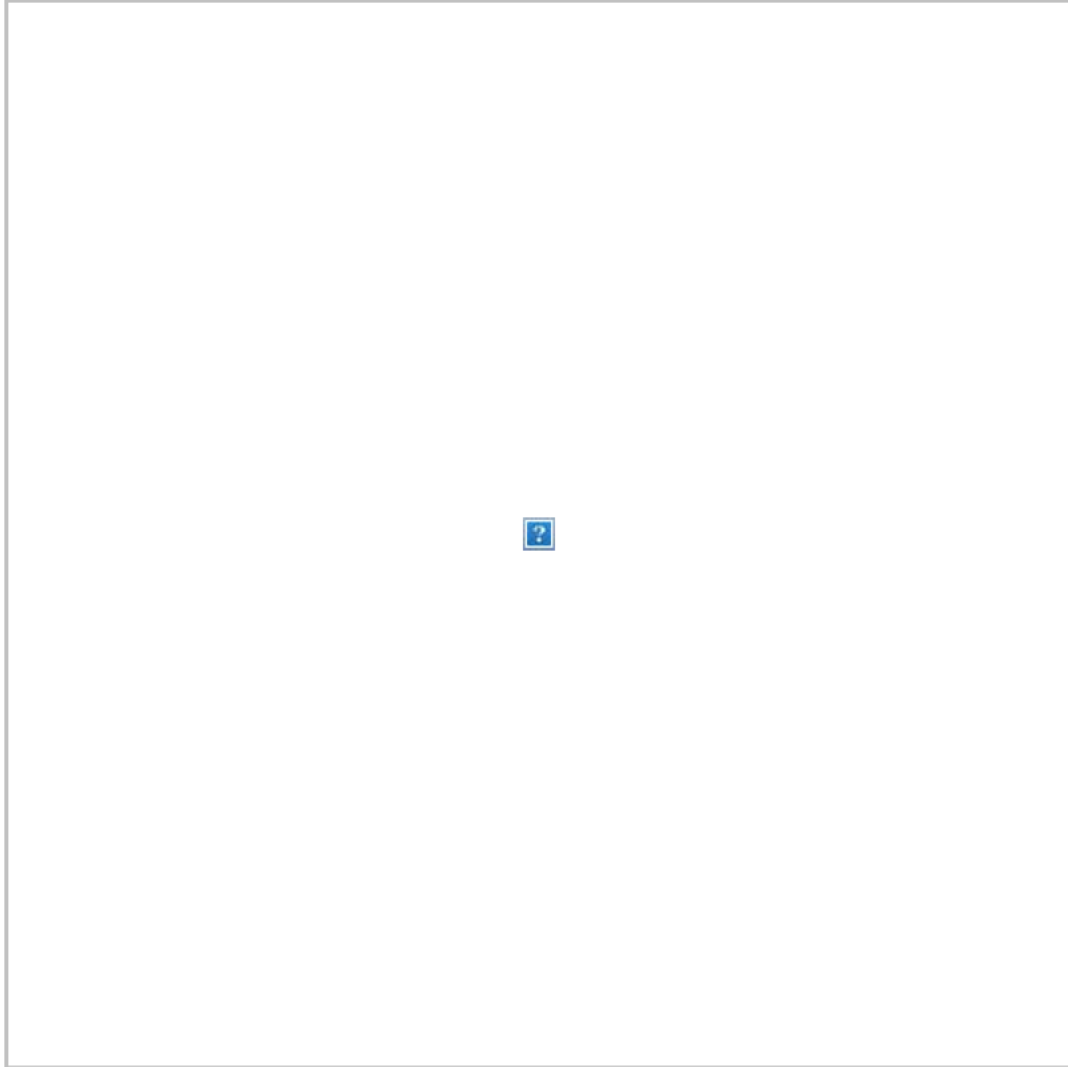


Fox's Sean Hannity and CNN's Brian Stelter went back-and-forth on the issue of voter fraud:

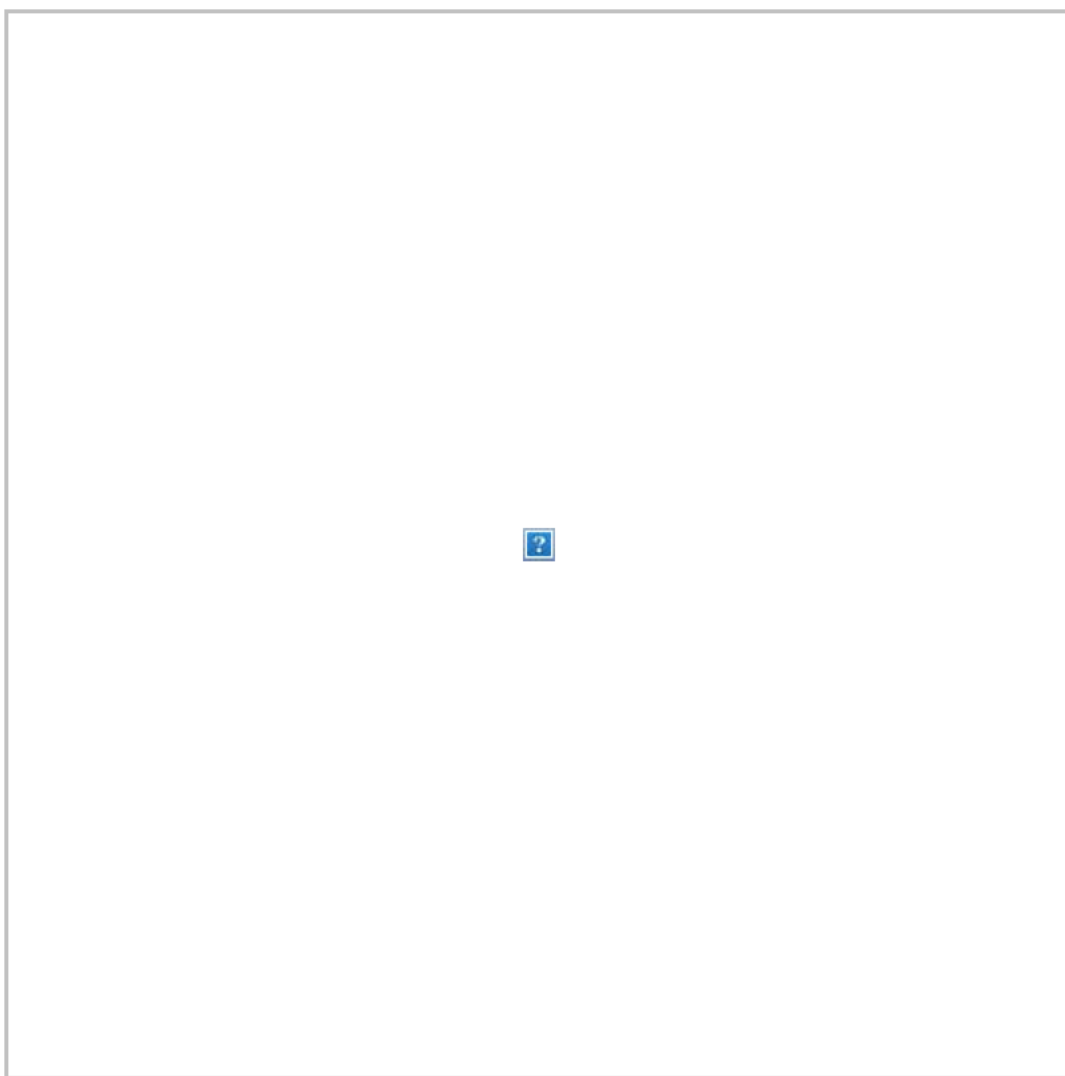


Mike Pence observed some of the damage from the firebombing in North Carolina and called it "an act of political terrorism":

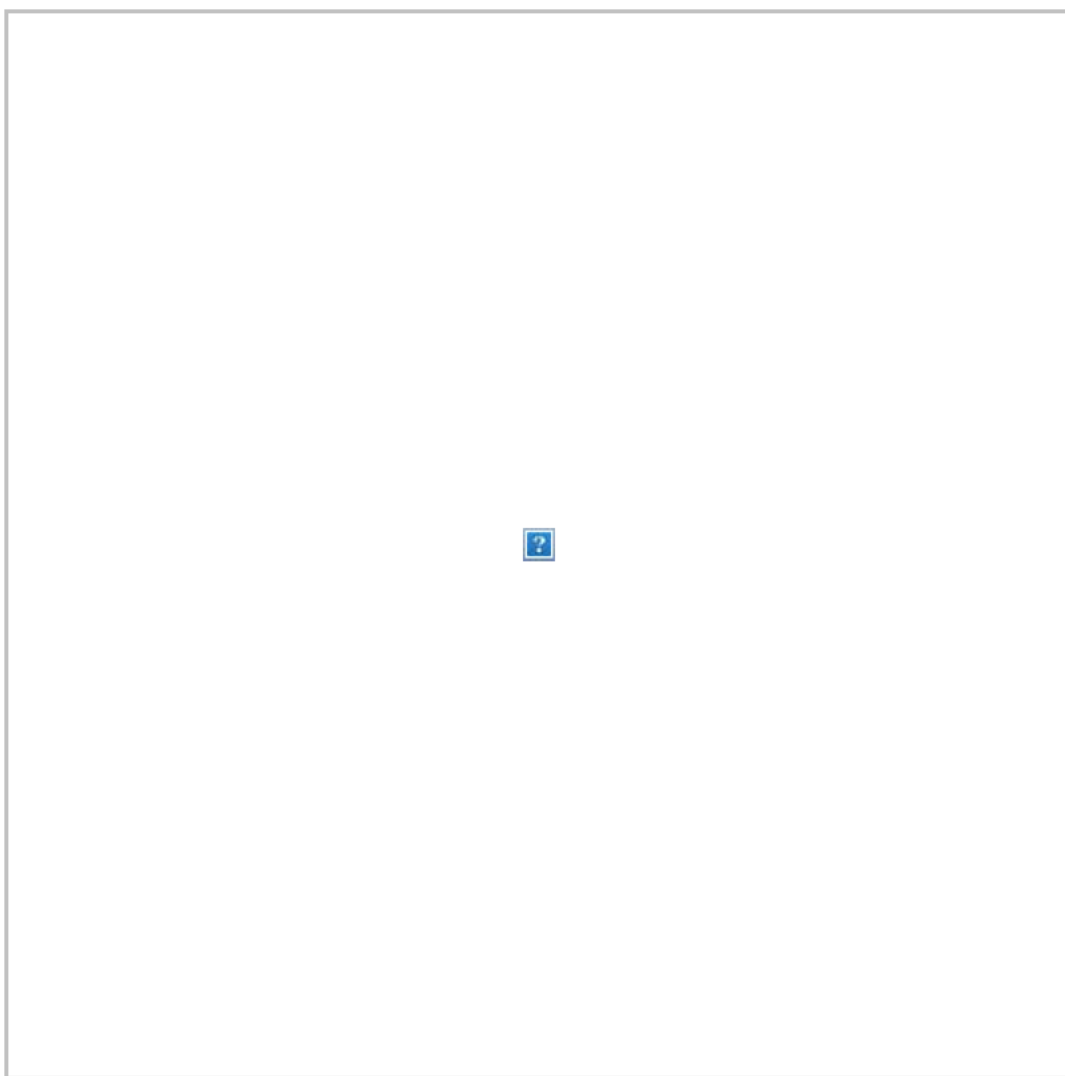
[Vogue endorsed Clinton](#), making the first ever political endorsement in the magazine's history. "We understand that Clinton has not always been a perfect candidate, yet her fierce intelligence and considerable experience are reflected in policies and positions that are clear, sound and hopeful," the magazine's editors write.



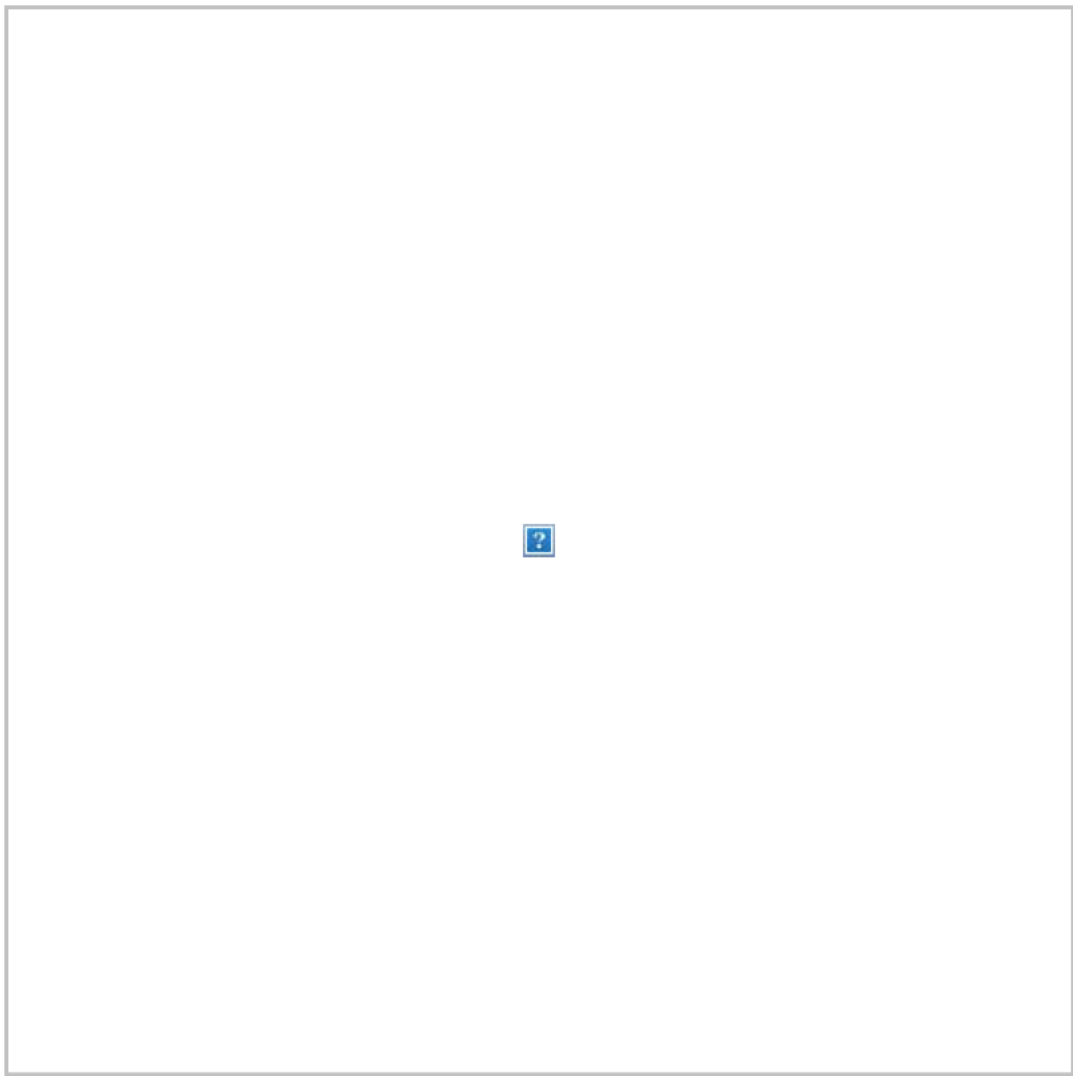
This is pretty funny:



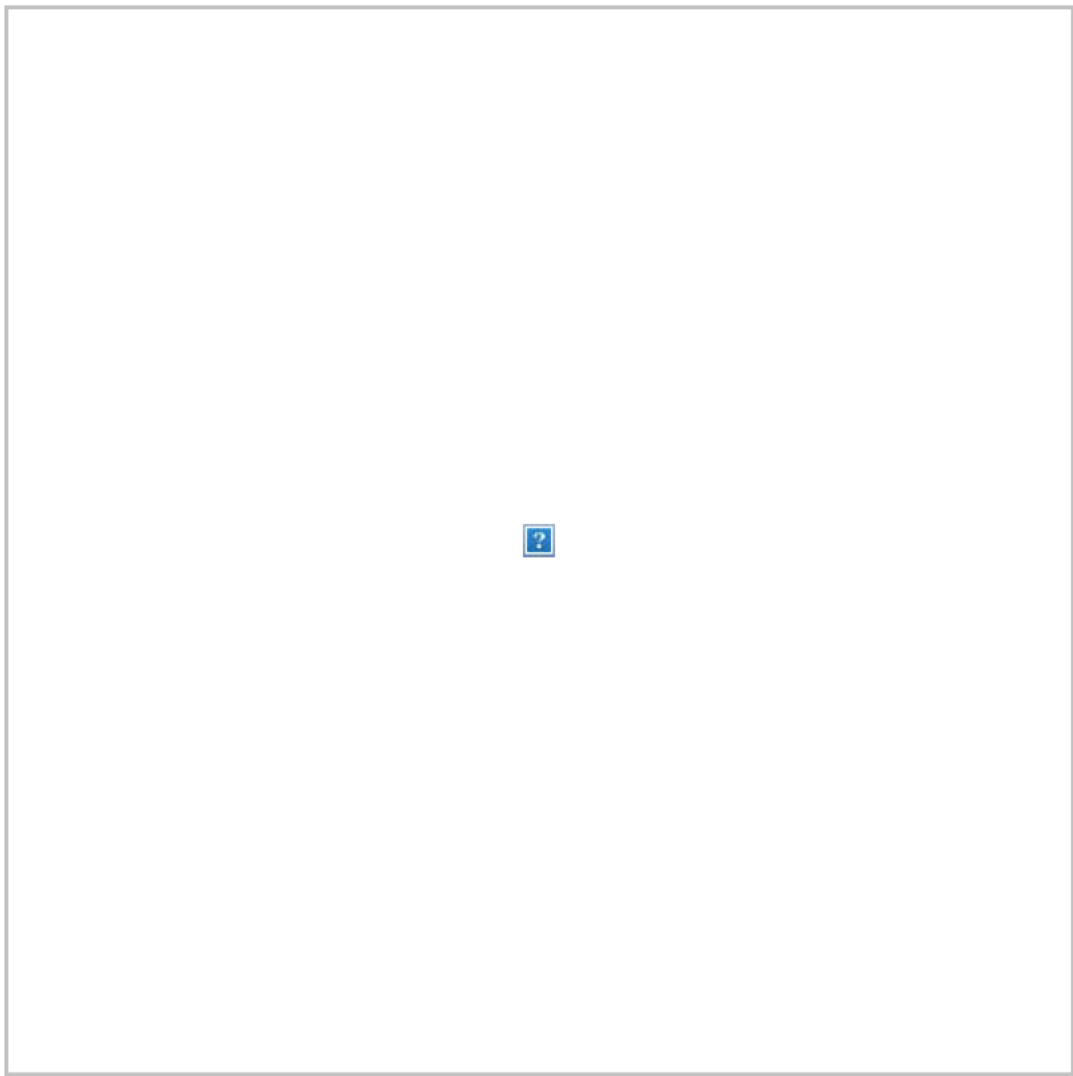
Wyclef Jean posted this photo:



Debra Messing got a thank-you note from the White House:



Jason Chaffetz took this selfie while camping:



Kevin McCarthy went to a Dodgers game:





### GOOD READS FROM ELSEWHERE:

-- New York Times, "[David Letterman \(and His Beard\) Shop at Target These Days](#)," by Dave Itzkoff: "Why does David Letterman have a beard? To put it more precisely: Why did Mr. Letterman, after stepping down from CBS's 'Late Show' and a 33-year career ... spend the past year and a half cultivating a fleecy and prodigious mound of facial hair ...? Did he grow these imposing bristles to keep the world at bay while he withdrew into retirement?" Was it his way of saying he was no longer the man who had spent 6,000 evenings reading Top 10 lists and interviewing 20,000 guests? **Actually, he**

**explained, 'I just got tired of shaving every day, but then it became something else, and I'm not quite sure what it became.'**

In his dry Midwestern delivery, tinged with a new and unaccustomed element of wistfulness, he said: 'The beard is a good reminder to me that that was a different life. I'm hopeful that I will either find something else, or something else will be presented to me.' ... With years of vitality left, he has been trying, since his 'Late Show' farewell in May 2015, to figure out what his next step should be."

**-- National security reporter Walter Pincus prepared a list of pressing foreign policy questions that Trump and Clinton should answer in tonight's debate.** Some highlights from [his column for the Cipher Brief](#):

- **For Trump, on Russia:** "At the last debate, despite your being briefed by intelligence analysts and after Director of National Intelligence James Clapper publicly identified Russia as doing the hacking, you said [Clinton] 'doesn't know if it's the Russians doing the hacking,' and then added, 'Maybe there is no hacking.' Do you not trust the U.S. intelligence community determination ... that the Russians are behind the hacking of the [DNC] emails?"
- **For Clinton, on Syria:** "You are advocating a no-fly zone and safe zones. Define just what would be involved on the part of the U.S. and its allies – including forces in the air and on the ground [for protection] ... Would you seek congressional authorization to use American armed forces which will have to strike at Syrian government targets, something normally considered an act of war?"

**For Trump, on Syria:** On Oct. 9, you said “Syria is no longer Syria. Syria is Russia and it’s Iran.’ You also said Assad forces and the Russians in Syria were fighting ISIS, and implied if you were president you would no longer support any anti-Assad forces. Instead you would join with the Russians, Iranians and Assad regime in fighting ISIS. Would that be your policy for Syria? And if the Assad regime, supported by Russian and Iranian military forces, attempted to regain control over all of Syria, would you stand aside and let that happen?”

## HOT ON THE LEFT

## HOT ON THE RIGHT

**Two little known but influential Democratic operatives lost their jobs after edited footage from a video sting by conservative activist James O’Keefe found them entertaining “dark notions” about how to win elections. From Dave Weigel: “Footage from the video shows [Scott] Foval, a Wisconsin-based politico with a long resume, bragging about a litany of political dirty tricks. In the first video, he boasts of ‘conflict engagement in the lines of Trump rallies,’ takes credit for the violence that canceled a Trump rally at the University of Illinois in Chicago (and) **admits****

**he's paid 'mentally ill' people to start trouble."**

Robert Creamer also announced he is stepping down from the work he was doing for a progressive consulting group following release of the tape. On Tuesday night's episode of "Hannity," two campaign representatives said that the tapes "validated everything" Trump had said about the possible threat of the election being stolen.

#### **DAYBOOK:**

**On the campaign trail:** Trump and Clinton debate in Las Vegas. Tim Kaine speaks in Upper Arlington and Springfield, Ohio and Asheville, N.C.; Bernie Sanders rallies Clinton supporters in Reno, Nev. Pence speaks in Durango, Colo.

**At the White House:** Obama has no public events scheduled. Biden speaks about the Cancer Moonshot at the SAP Global CEO Summit in New York. Later, he travels to Boston to speak again about the project at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute.

**On Capitol Hill:** The Senate and House are out.

#### **QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

Obama mocked Trump for griping about a rigged election: "You start whining before the game's even over?"



## NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:

-- “A solidly summerlike day, with partly to mostly sunny skies and noticeable humidity,” the [Capital Weather Gang forecasts](#).

“Highs head for the mid-80s, with light winds from the west-southwest around 5-10 mph. The record highs to beat for the day? — 88 at DCA, 83 at Dulles, and 82 at BWI.”

-- The Wizards [beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 96-91](#).

-- The [Capitals beat the Colorado Avalanche 3-0](#)

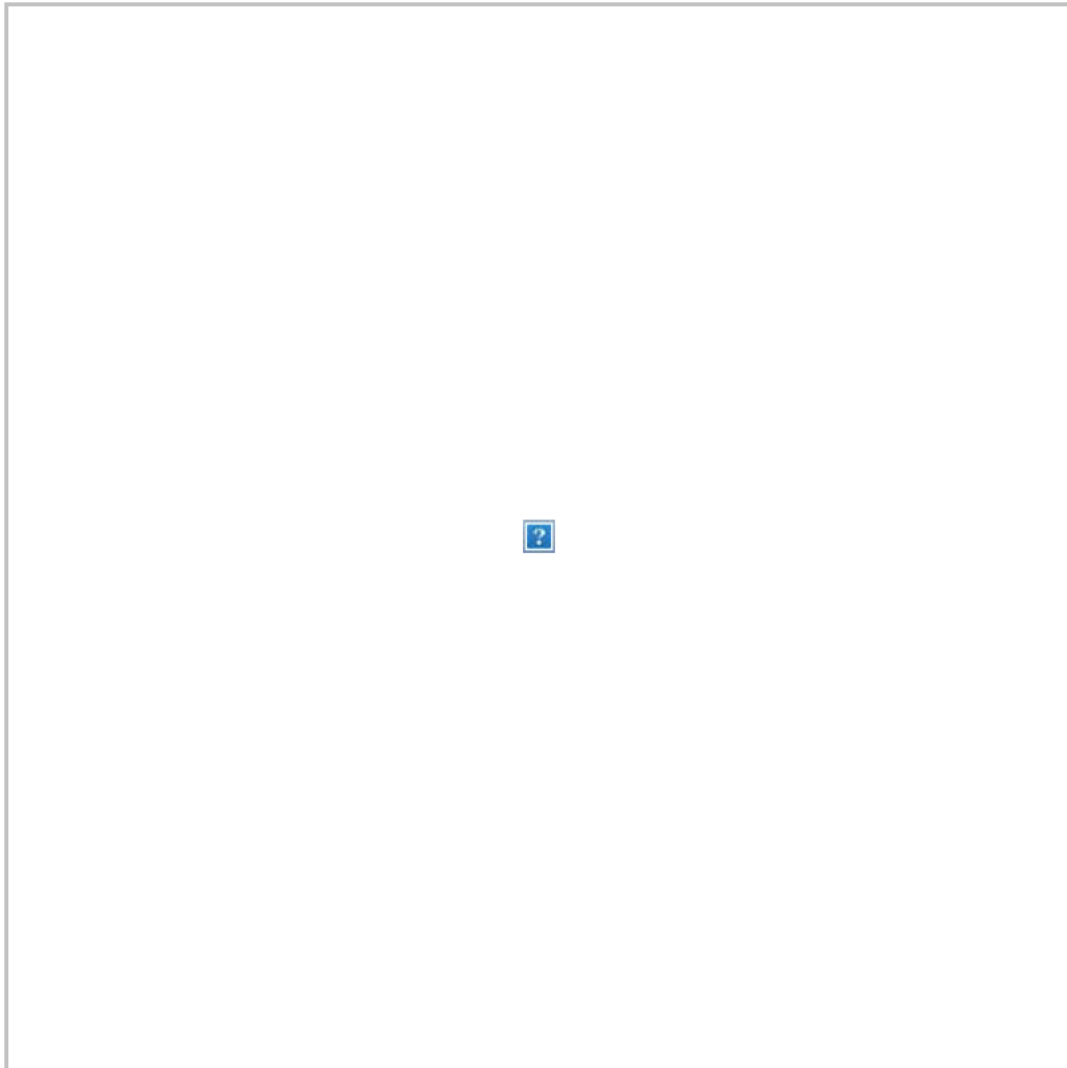
-- A Richmond federal appeals court agreed to postpone oral arguments in a case over the Washington Redskins’ trademark registration, further delaying a long-running case that pits the NFL team against the U.S. patent office and Native Americans groups find the team’s name insulting. ([Ian Shapira](#))

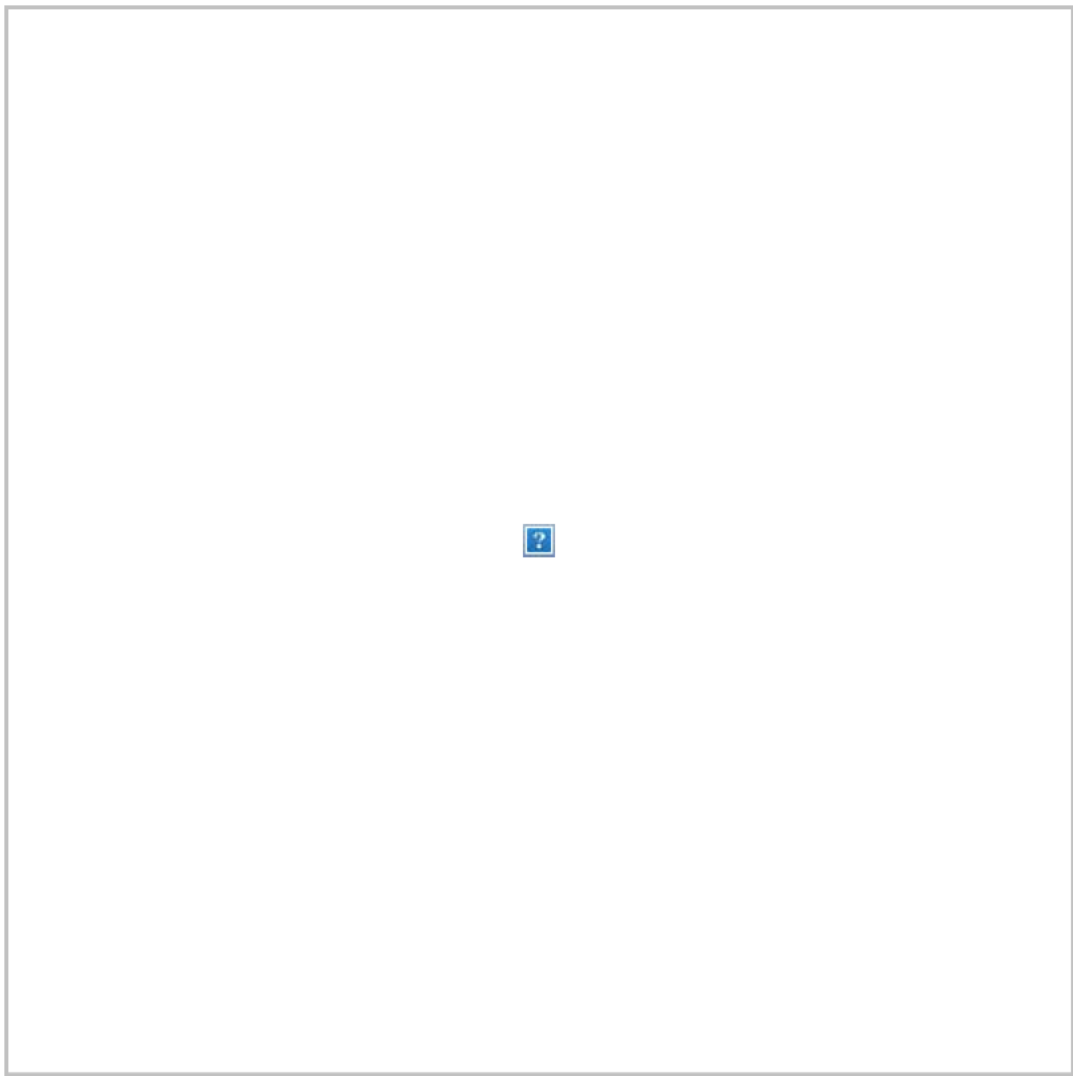
-- A high school senior was fatally stabbed on a D.C. Metrobus Tuesday evening, reportedly following a long-running dispute with another young woman over a cell phone. Police said the suspect has been taken into custody and charged. ([Peter Hermann](#))

-- Marriott International announced plans to relocate its headquarters to downtown Bethesda, deciding to remain in Montgomery County after getting commitment on a \$62 million publicly funded initiative. ([Jonathan O'Connell](#))

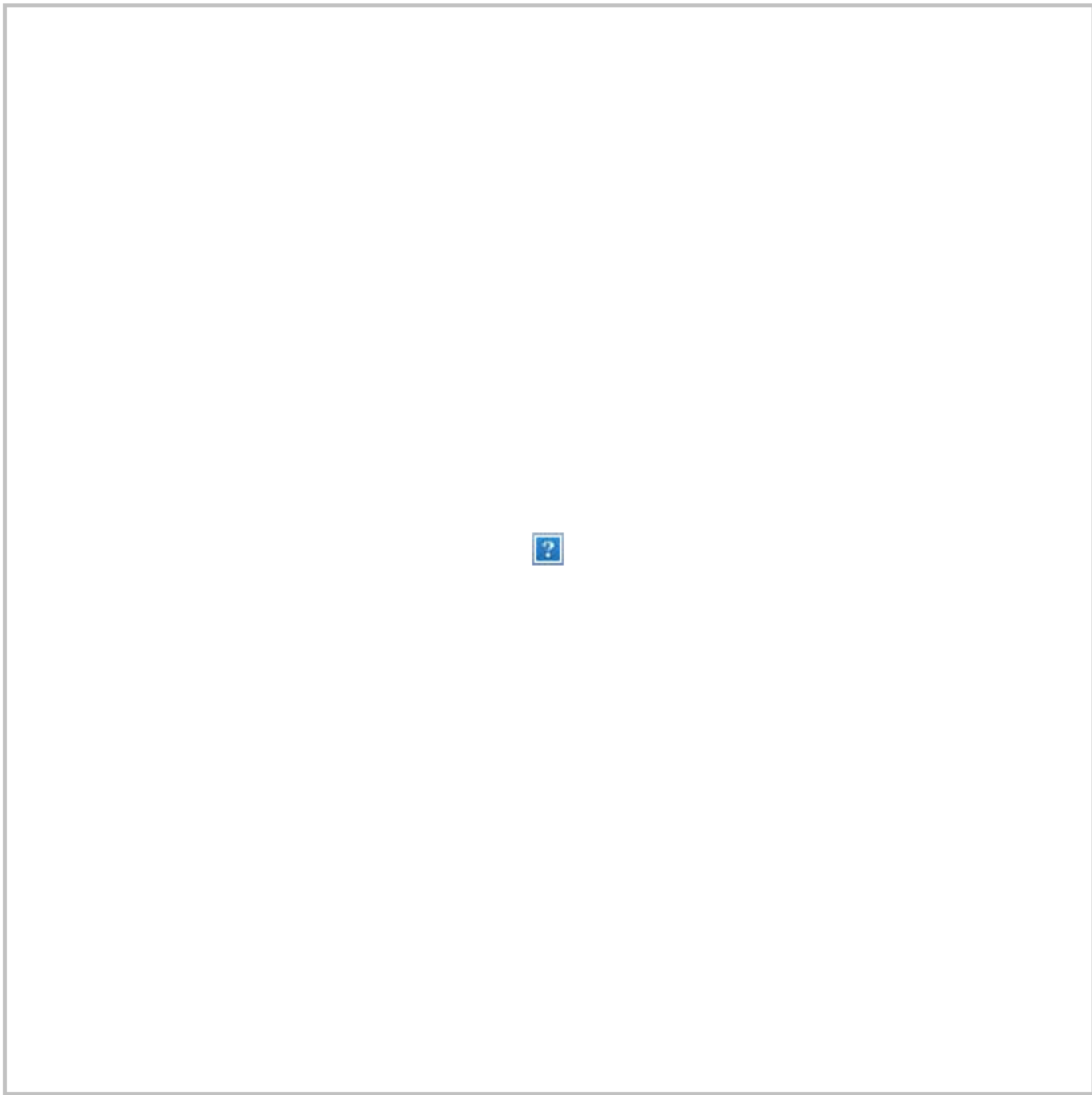
## VIDEOS OF THE DAY:

Tony Award-winning actress Laura Benanti [returned to “The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” last night](#) to reprise her [spot-on parody](#) of Melania Trump — this time with some uncomfortable Billy Bush references:





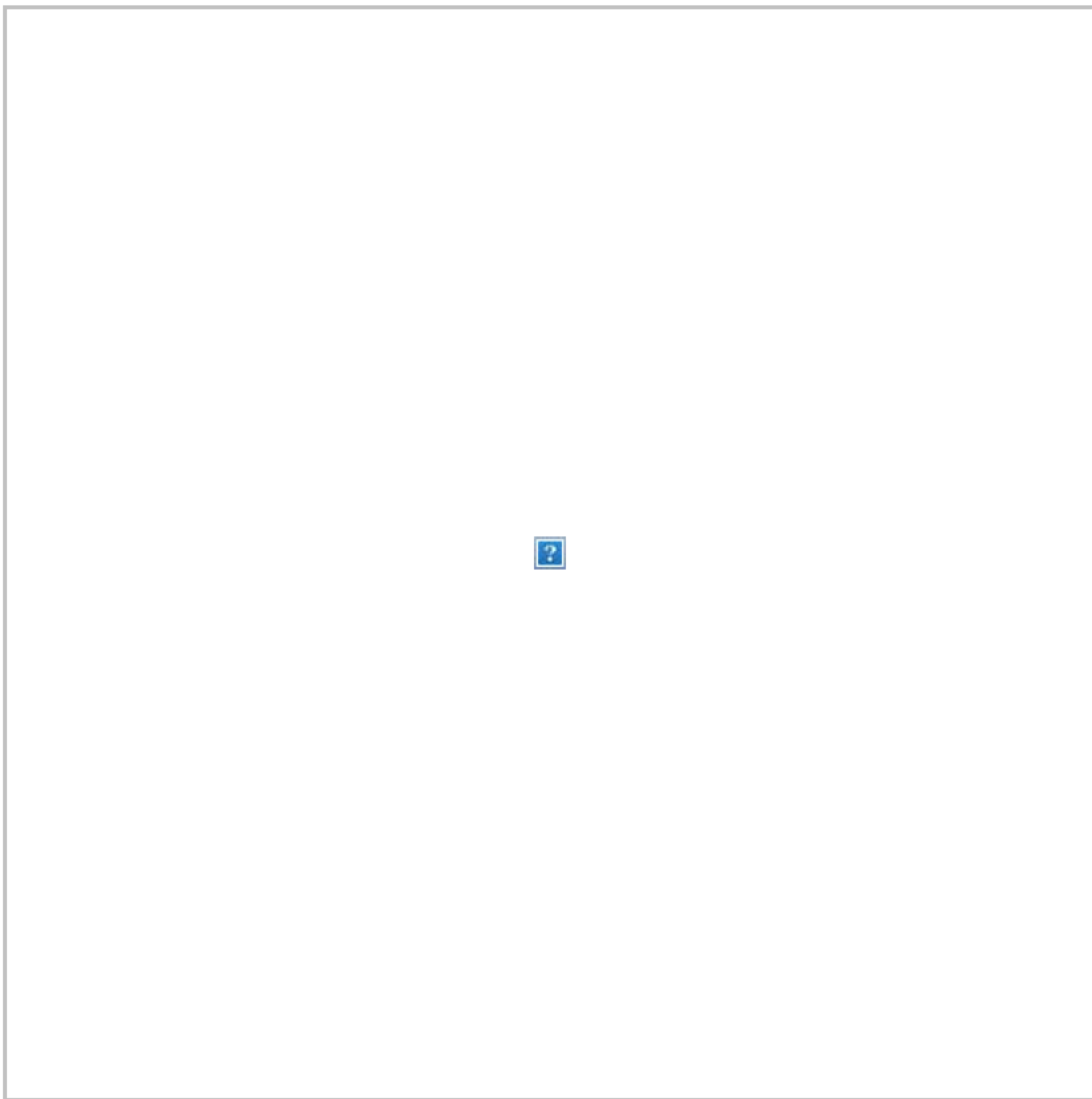
Watch as celebrities arrive at the White House for the Italian state dinner:



Celebrities arrive for Italian state dinner

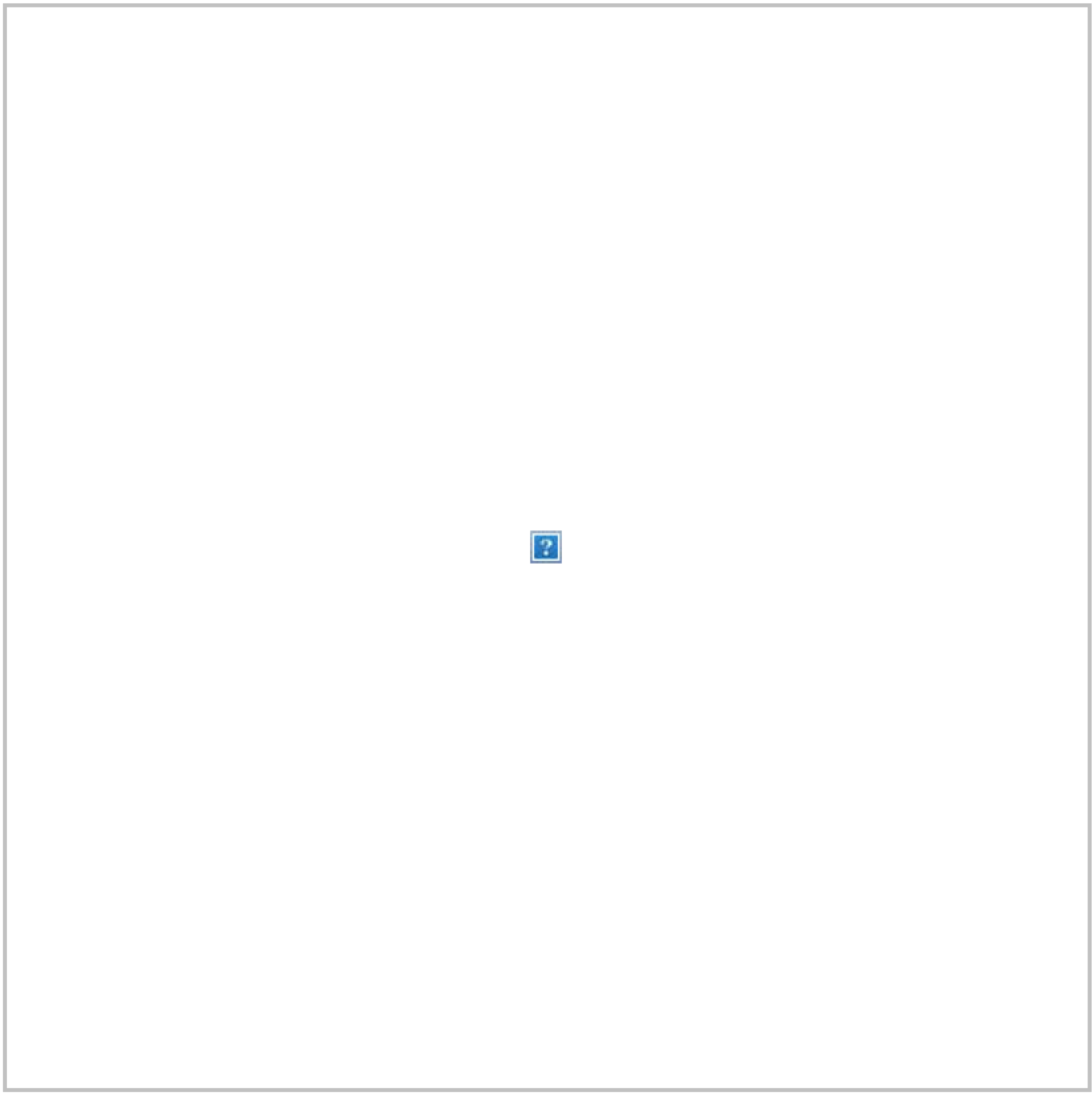
"Dreamer" Juan Salazar, who came to the U.S. when he was seven, contemplates what's at stake in this election for him and his undocumented family members:





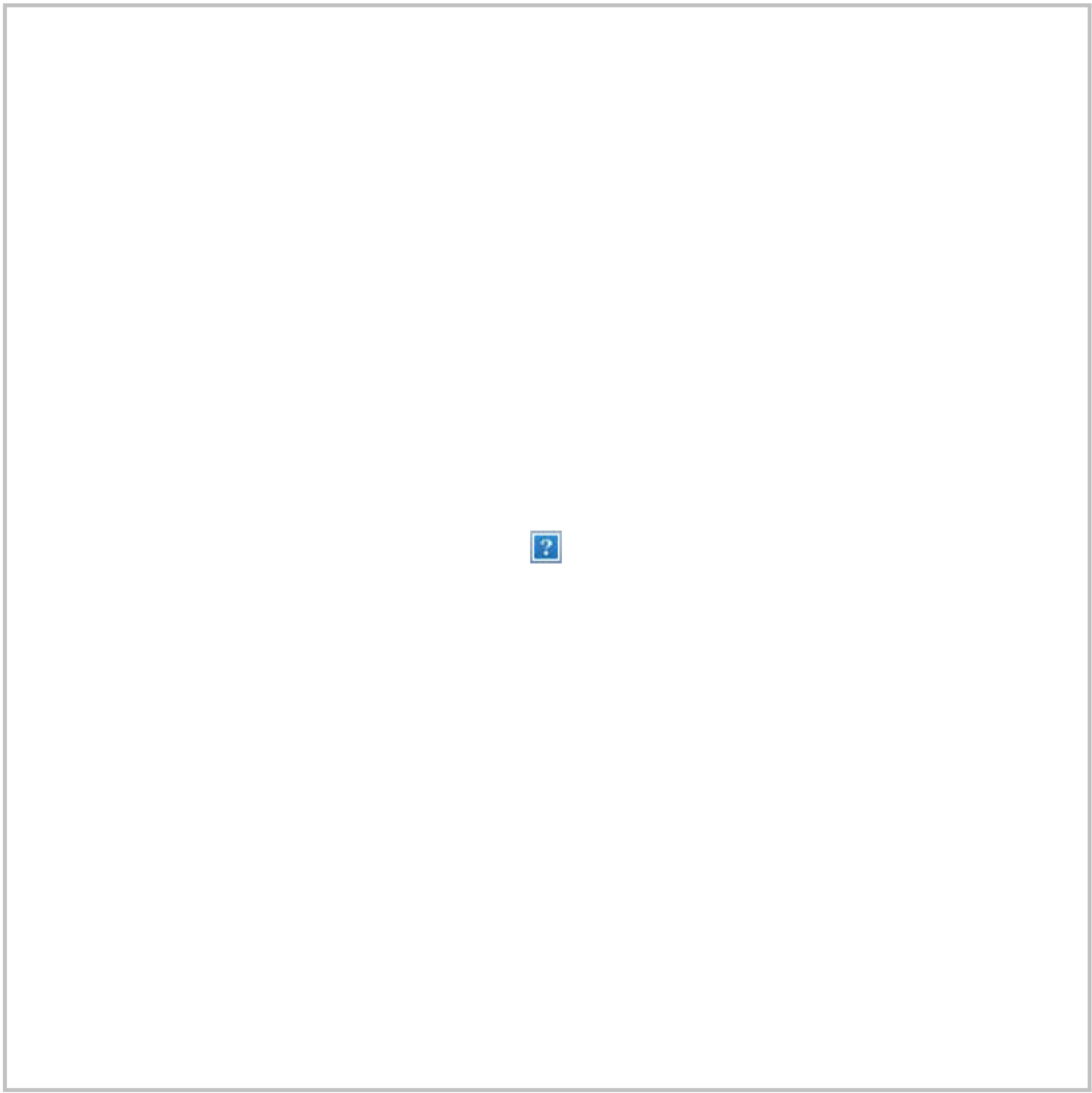
A family in fear: 'Us being separated...is just devastating'

Judy Shepard, whose son Matthew Shepard was murdered in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1998, because he was gay, cut a 1-minute spot for the Clinton Super PAC Priorities USA. "I know what can happen as the result of hate," she says to camera. "So when I see the hate that Donald Trump has brought to his campaign for president, it terrifies me. ... Words have an influence, violence causes pain, hate can rip us apart. I know what can happen as the result of hate, and Donald Trump should never be our president."



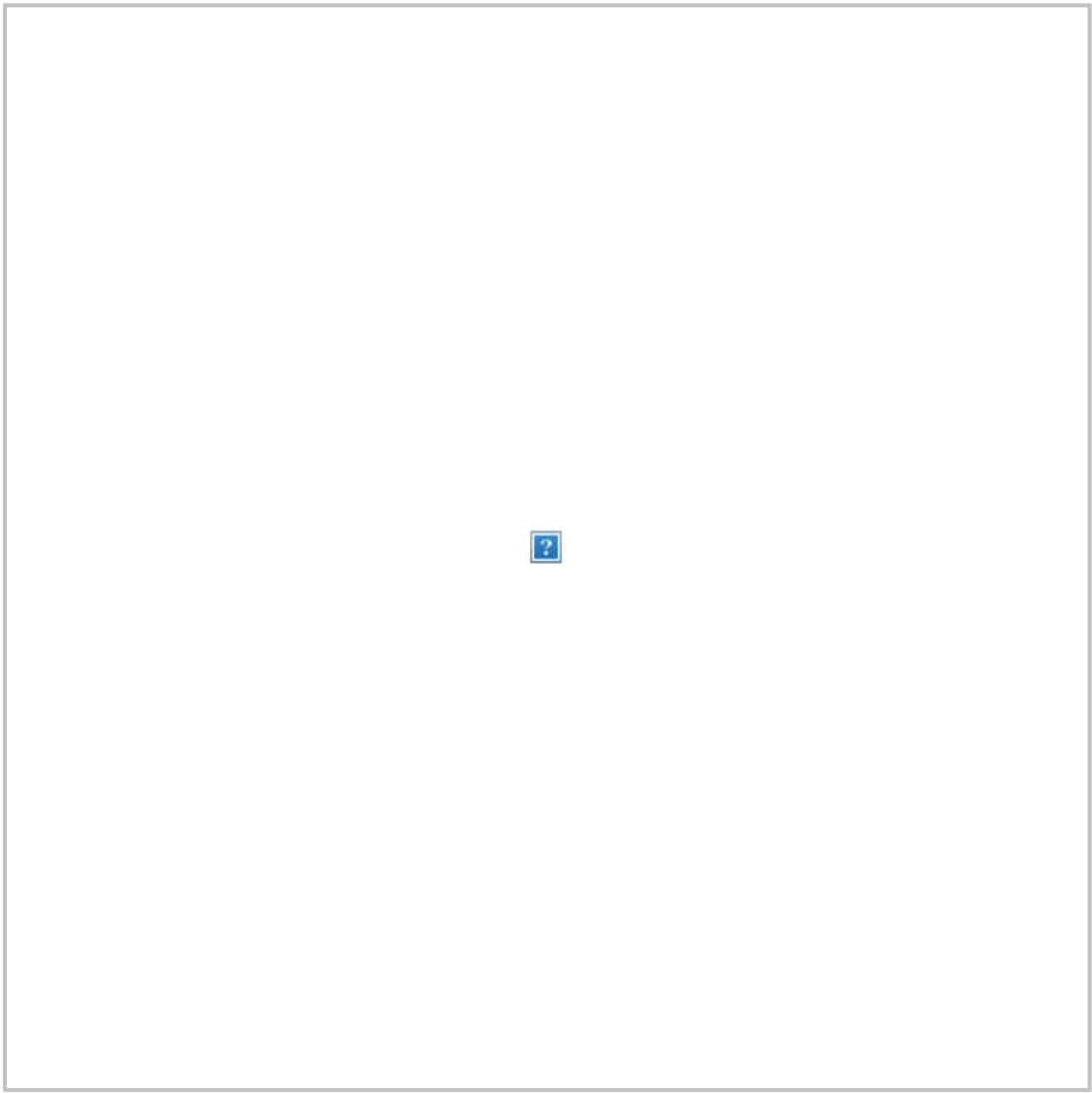
Hate

Bloomberg made an Ocean's Eleven-style explainer about whether the election is rigged:



Ocean's Election: Rigging the System, Vegas-Style

Kathy Griffin taped a video against Trump (warning: profanity):

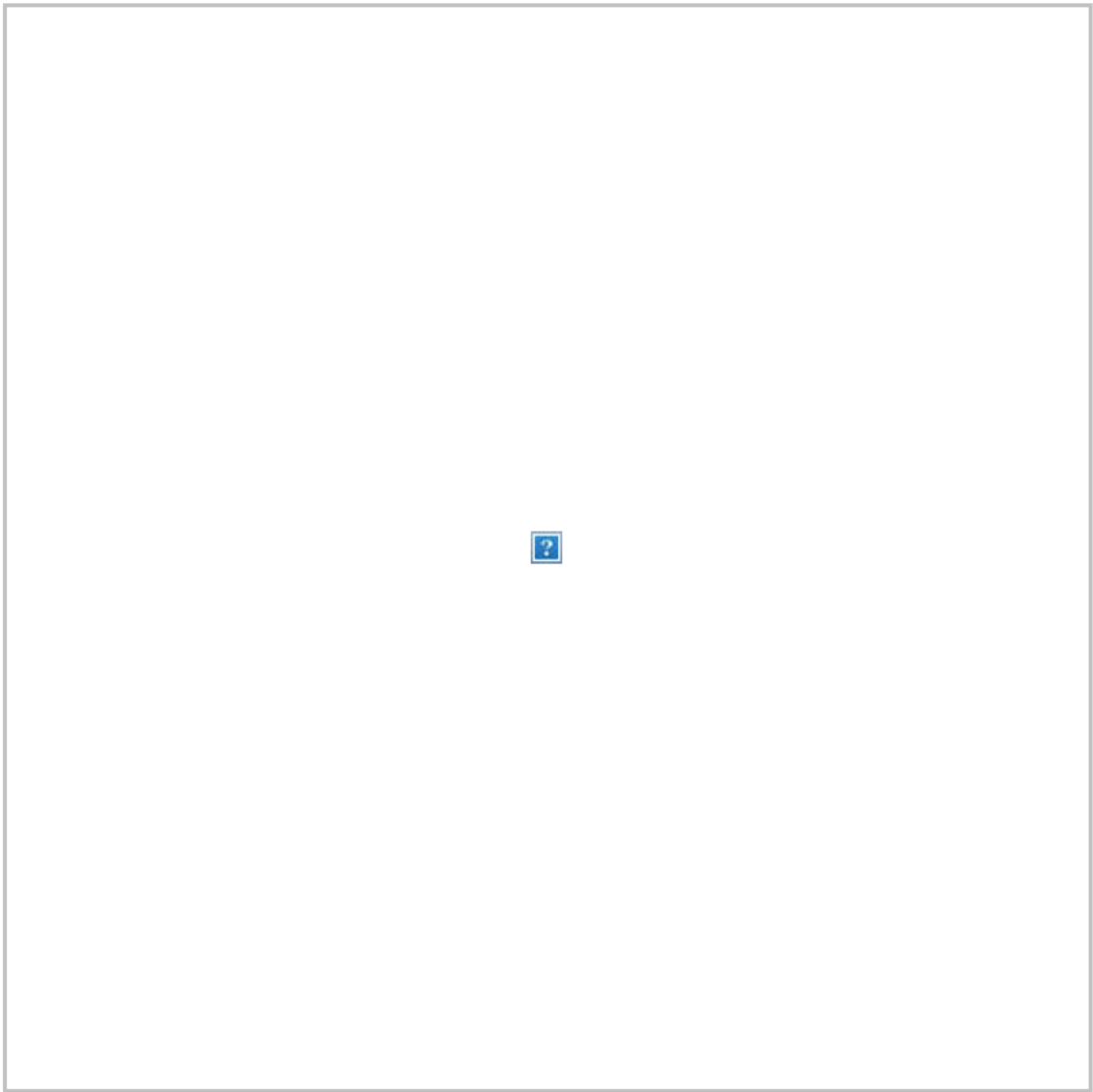


Mirrors | Kathy Griffin | Hillary Clinton

Viceland also used adult language in this Instagram video against Trump:

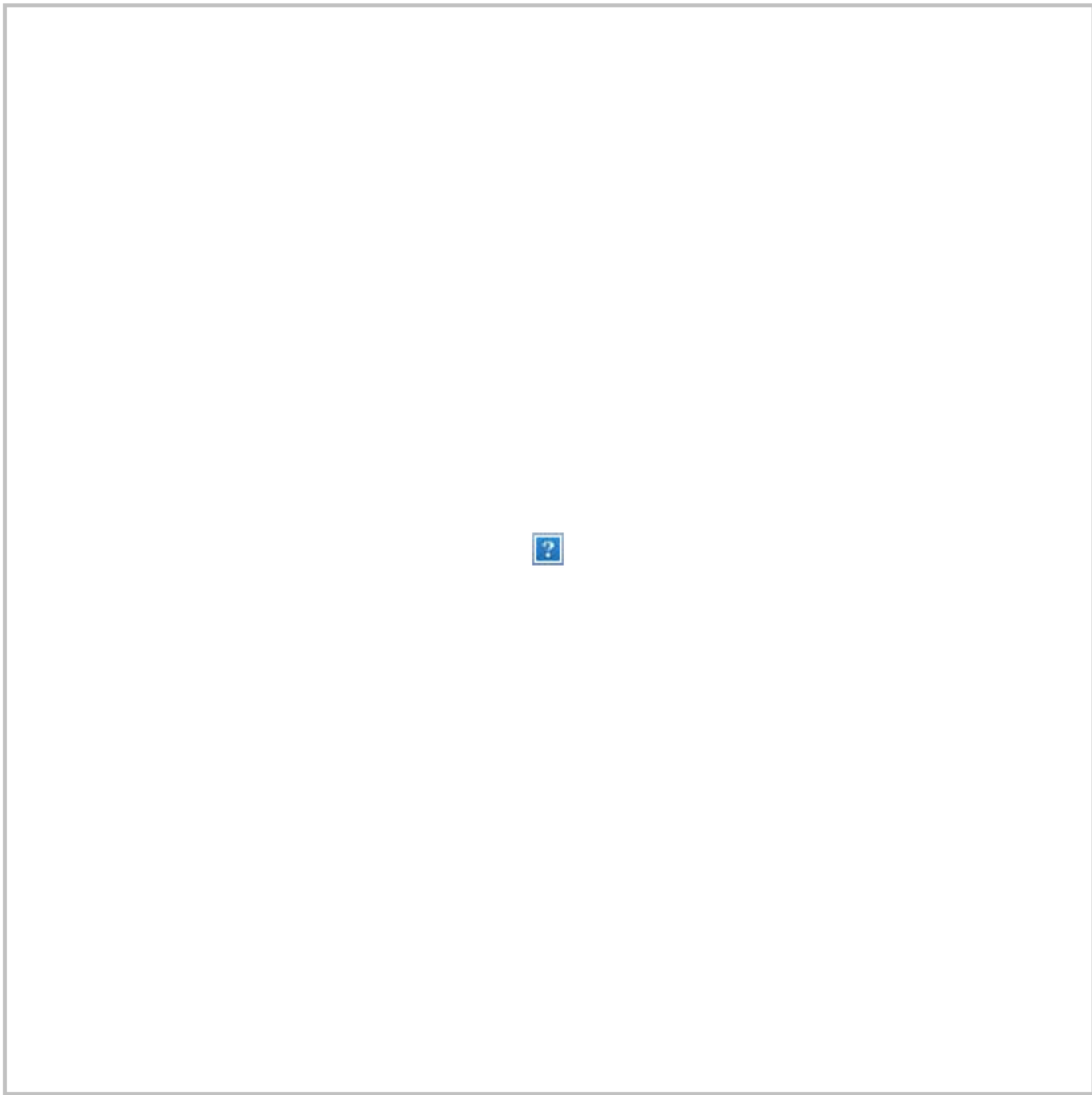


Compare some of what Clinton says in her stump speech to what she told Goldman Sachs bankers behind closed doors:



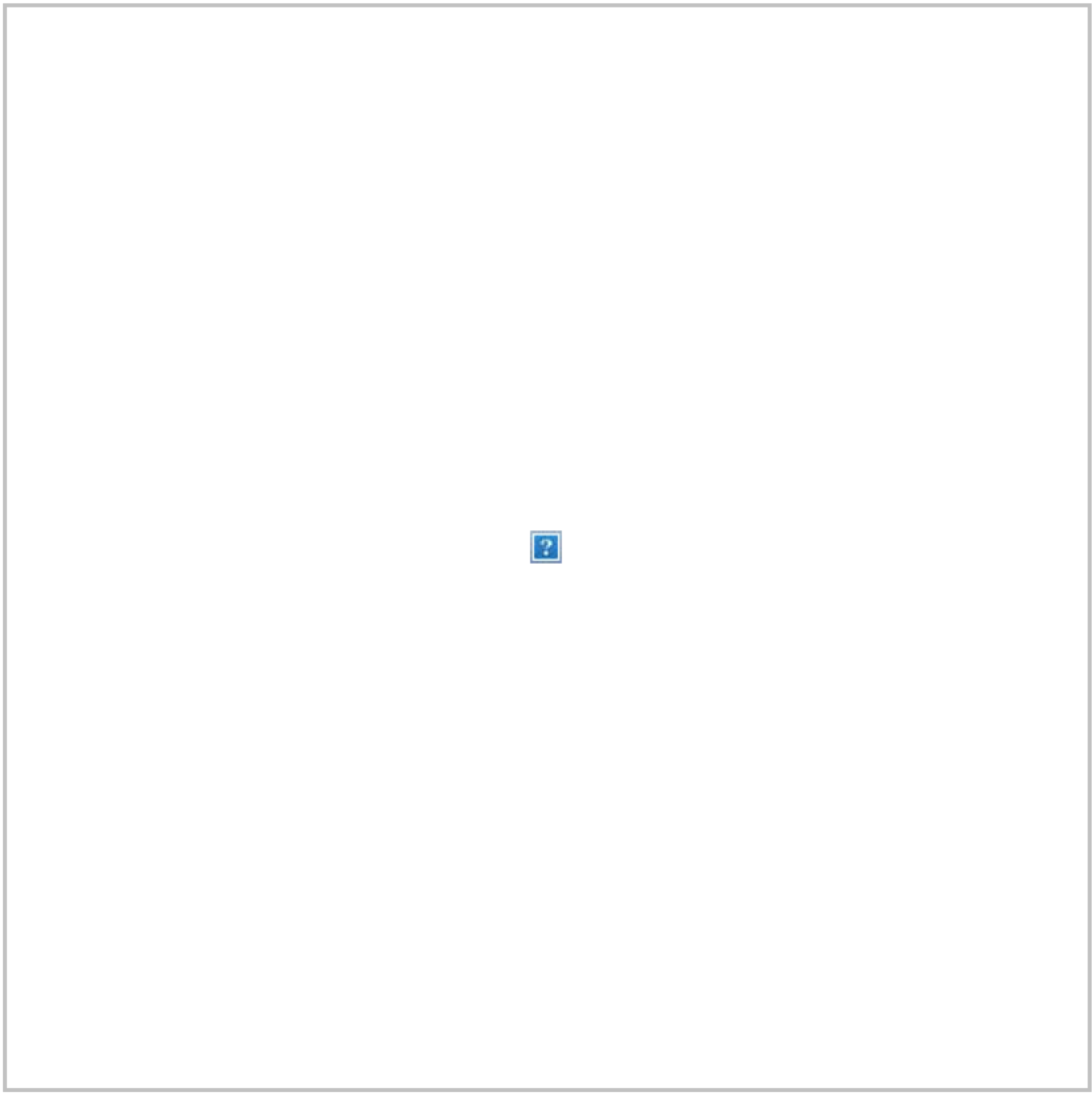
How some of Clinton's private speeches compare to her public stances

Watch Obama speak about Trump's "whining":



President Obama: "I'd invite Mr. Trump to stop whining..." (C-SPAN)

Finally, in this video, Canadians tell Americans why our country is already great:



Canadians 'tell America it's great'

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To: (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
Subject: e Court will be a focus of tonight's presidential debate  
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 9:55:42 AM

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# The Daily 202



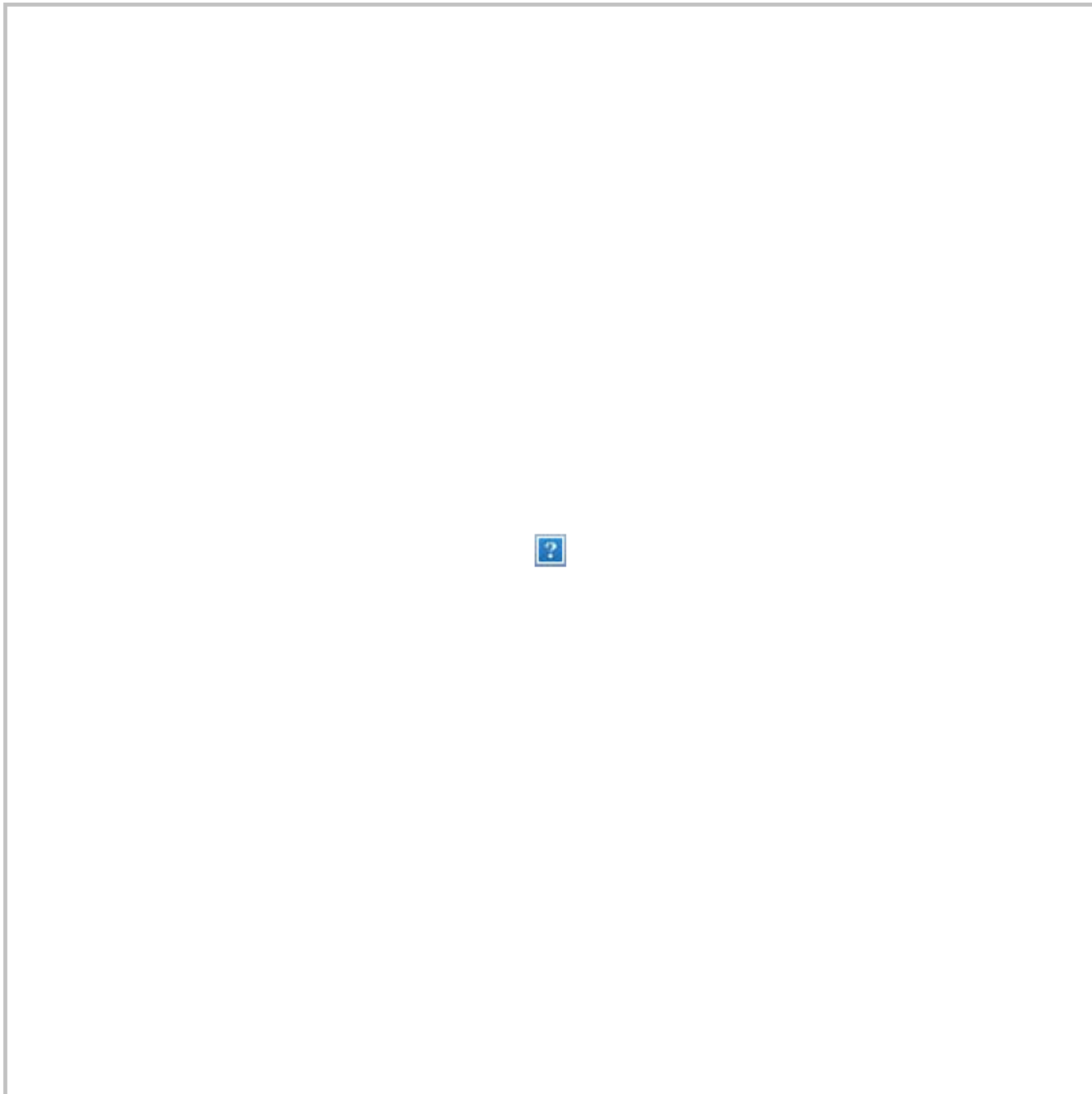
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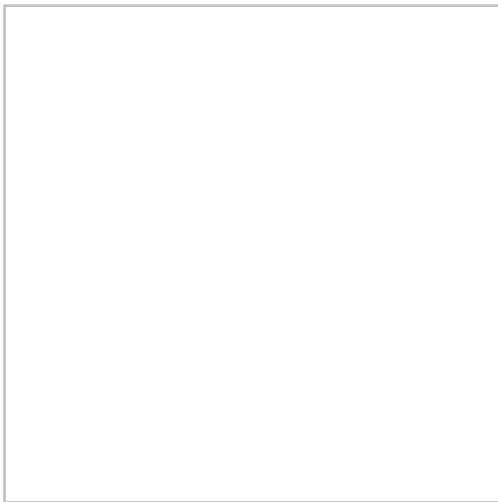


**The Supreme Court will be a focus of tonight's**

## presidential debate



Donald Trump's plane passes Hillary Clinton's plane at McCarran International Airport yesterday. The candidates have come to Las Vegas for their third and final debate. (Brendan Smialowski/AFP/Getty Images)



*With Breanne Deppisch*

**THE BIG IDEA: The Supreme Court is one of six main topics that will be covered during tonight's final debate at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.** The late Antonin Scalia's seat continues to sit empty. An evenly-divided court has begun its new term under a cloud of uncertainty. Assuming Hillary Clinton wins, it remains [unclear](#) whether Republicans will try to confirm Merrick Garland during the lame-duck session to prevent her from putting up someone who is younger and more liberal next year.

**The debate took on new significance this week when John McCain [boasted](#) during a radio interview that Republicans would automatically oppose whomever Clinton nominates.** "I promise you that we will be united against any Supreme Court nominee that Hillary Clinton, if she were president, would put up," the Arizona senator said. "I promise you!"

Attacked by his Democratic challenger, McCain's spokeswoman released a statement walking back his comment. The senator will "thoroughly examine the record of any Supreme Court nominee put

before the Senate,” she said. McCain then [awkwardly avoided](#) a local TV reporter who tried to follow up.

**Republicans, who have struggled to convince voters that they are capable of governing, talked a big game in years past about the need to be more than just “the party of no.” That messaging is gone now. The prospect of four more years in the wilderness suggests that they will move back toward unapologetic obstruction.**

Right now, however, they are in damage control mode. **Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, who is up for reelection in Iowa, promised yesterday to not automatically “stonewall” any Clinton pick.** “If that new president happens to be Hillary, we can’t just simply stonewall,” Grassley said on [a conference call with local press](#).

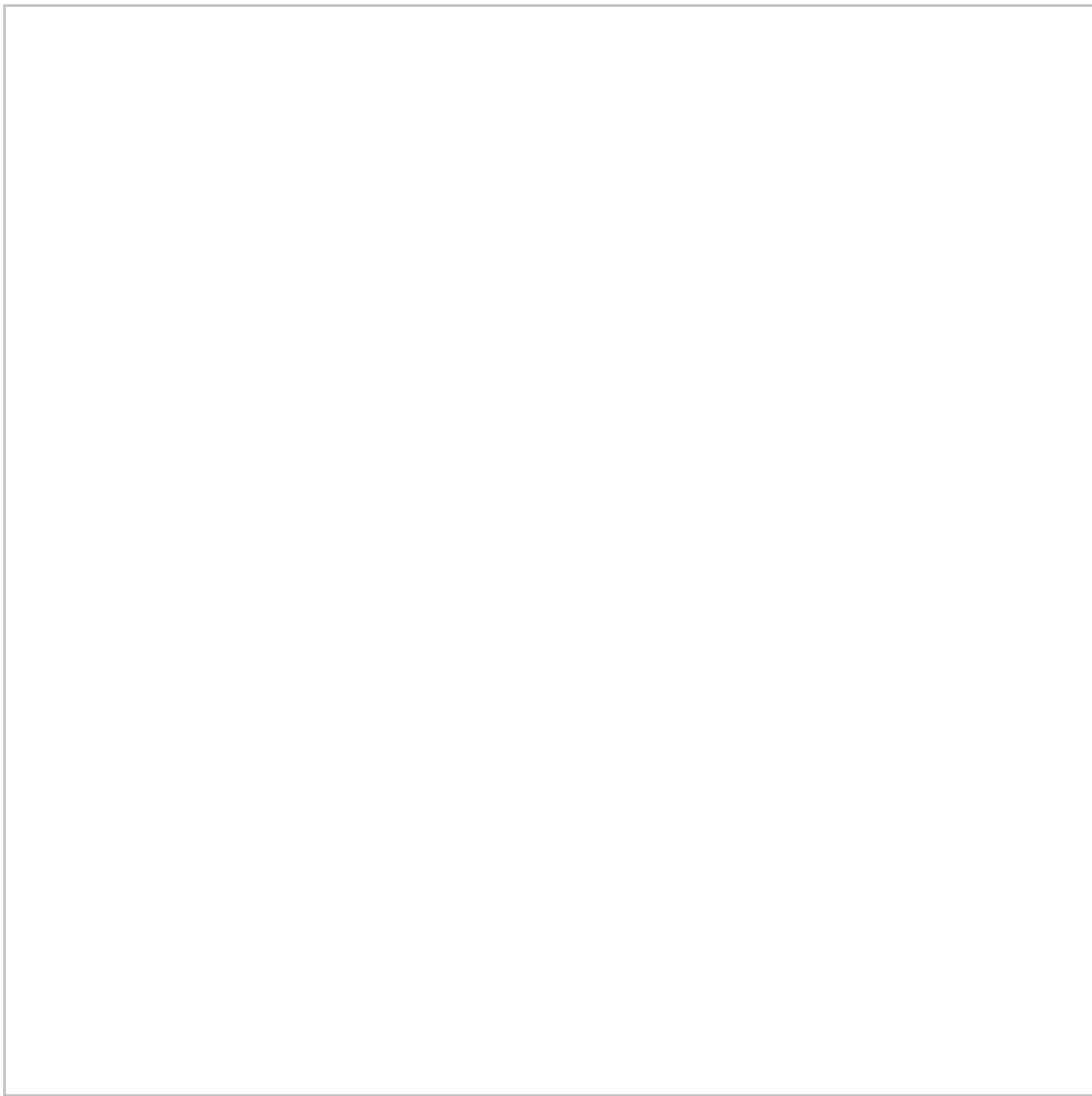
This is a very delicate balancing act. Vulnerable Republican incumbents are trying to convince people who are reluctantly voting for Clinton to support them by promising that they’ll be a check and balance on the excesses of the Clinton presidency. **One man’s “check and balance,” however, is another man’s “obstruction.” Regardless of how you play it, the bottom line is that Republicans are trying to save their majority by promising more gridlock.**

If Republicans hold the Senate, Mitch McConnell will control the floor schedule and Grassley will continue to have the Judiciary gavel. So [they technically could](#) do exactly what they have for the past nine months with Garland.

**Democrats are now favored to win the Senate majority. Even if they run the table, however, they'll only control around 53 seats.**

That is nowhere near filibuster proof. The question then becomes: Which Republicans would cross over to vote for a President Clinton's SCOTUS picks? Could a Majority Leader Chuck Schumer cobble together 60 votes? Or does he invoke the nuclear option and change the rules to allow Supreme Court nominees to be confirmed by a simple majority? **Going nuclear will probably be the easier course, both politically and procedurally**, especially because the Republican blockade of Garland has cost GOP leaders much of their moral standing to oppose such a gambit.

**Contrary to the will of the brilliant men who devised the Constitution, the Senate is increasingly becoming a majoritarian institution. Conservatives, who in principle should be alarmed by this trend, have shortsightedly accelerated it.**



A student standing in for Hillary is captured on the large monitor during a rehearsal for the debate last night at UNLV. (David Goldman/AP)

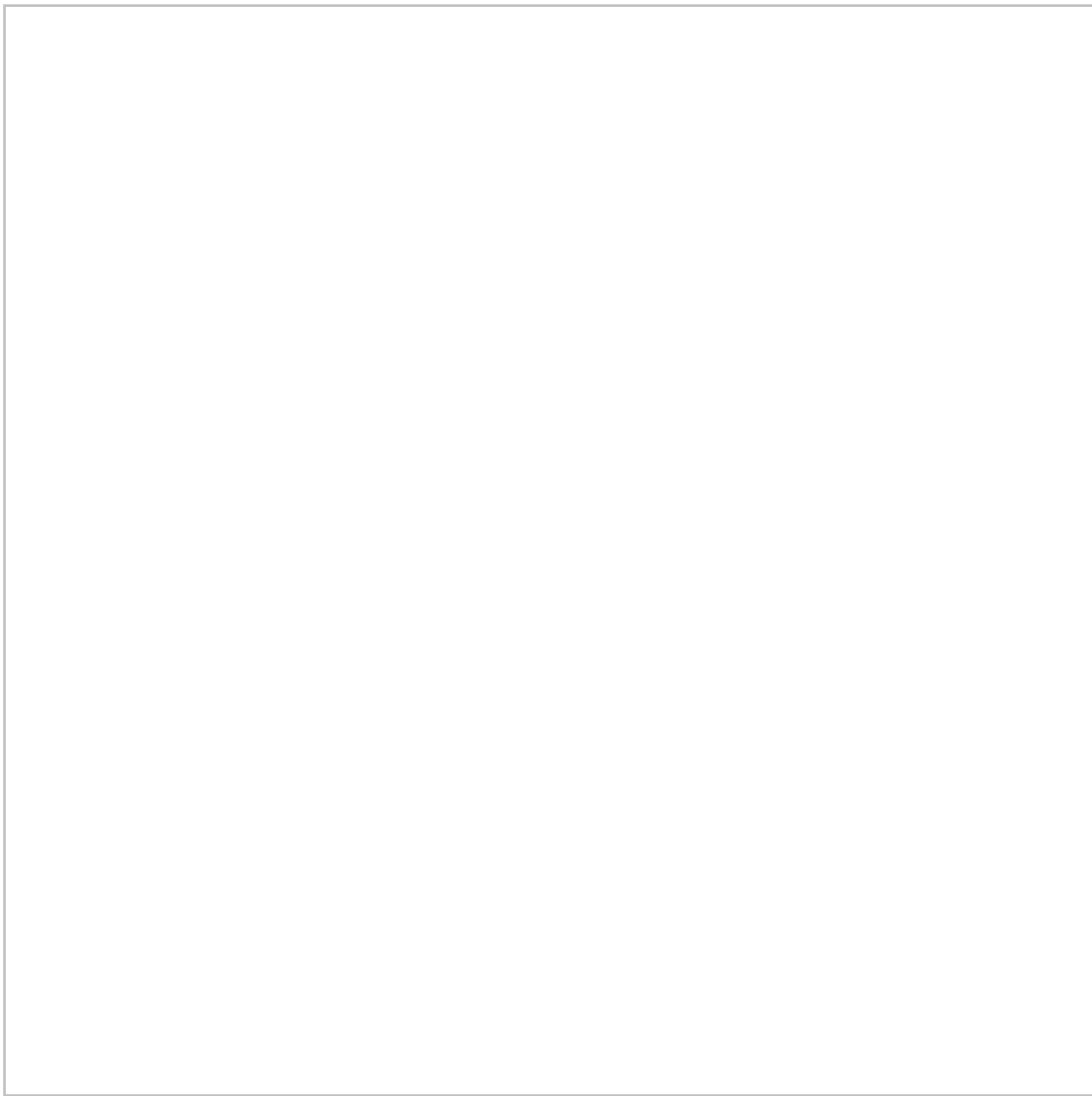
**-- There are two very important SCOTUS questions that the candidates have avoided giving direct answers to:**

**Will Clinton re-nominate Garland?** Watch for her to once again dodge on this. She's called him "extremely well qualified," and she's relying heavily on Barack Obama to get her across the finish line in November. The president sees getting Garland through during the lame-duck as a top priority and a legacy achievement, but Clinton privately wants to pick someone who is younger and more liberal than

the 63-year-old moderate.

**Will Trump commit to nominating only people who are on his list of 21 potential picks?**

Aides have said the list is definitive, but the reality TV star has suggested during interviews that he might go another direction. And he has a very long history of not being true to his word. A few of the people Trump floated have chastised him. Utah Sen. Mike Lee, on the second installment of Trump's list, subsequently called on the GOP nominee to drop out. And, amusingly, federal appellate court Judge Diane Sykes (who was in the first batch of names released by Trump) ruled earlier this month [against](#) Mike Pence. She said the Indiana governor cannot interfere with the distribution of federal funds to resettle Syrian refugees in his state.



Trump speaks in Grand Junction, Colorado. (George Frey/Getty)

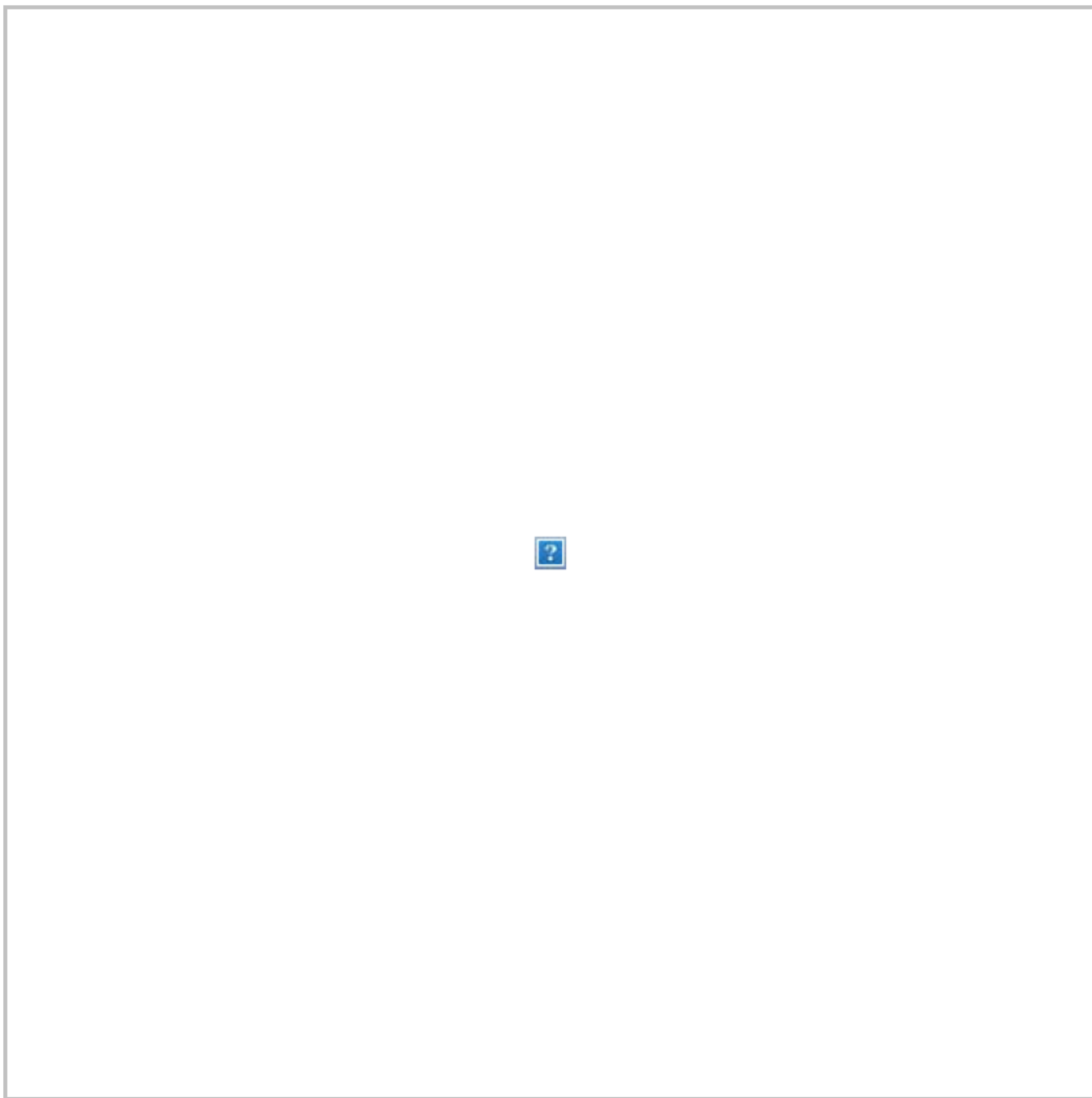
**-- For many conservative intellectuals, stopping Clinton from appointing Scalia's replacement is no longer a good enough reason to support Trump.** Among the Republican politicians who have capitulated, such as Ted Cruz, holding the Scalia seat is a favorite talking point to justify supporting someone who they privately see as dangerously authoritarian. But 29 top conservative legal scholars have signed onto a letter arguing that it is not enough. The "Originalists against Trump" do not believe Trump would protect the Constitution. And they do not trust him to actually pick from his list of



21. “More importantly, we do not trust him to respect constitutional limits in the rest of his conduct in office, of which judicial nominations are only one part,” they write. The group understands that the alternative is Clinton. “Yet our country’s commitment to its Constitution is not so fragile that it can be undone by a single administration or a single court,” they conclude. ([Read the full letter here.](#))

Our [Robert Barnes notes](#) that the signatories include a Northwestern law professor who was one of the founders of the Federalist Society, Steven G. Calabresi; Post columnist George F. Will; and a well-regarded conservative law professor at New York University and the University of Chicago, Richard Epstein. **“The effort was organized by Duke University law professor Stephen E. Sachs and University of Chicago law professor William Baude, a pair of former clerks to Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.”**

**Something to ponder: Will Roberts vote for Trump?** He obviously wants to regain his working majority, but he also hails from Indiana – just like Gonzalo Curiel, the federal judge whom Trump leveled repeated, racially-loaded attacks against. We’ll never know...



Bill greets Melania before the start of the last debate. (Paul J. Richards/AFP/Getty Images)

### **MORE ON WHAT TO EXPECT IN VEGAS TONIGHT:**

-- The other five topics that will get covered from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Eastern are immigration, entitlements/debt, the economy, foreign policy and each candidate's “fitness” to serve as president.

-- Trump's scorched-earth strategy continues. He is bringing as his guests Obama’s estranged half-brother Malik and the mother

**of a Benghazi victim who has accused Clinton of “murdering” her son.** It is unclear whether the campaign will reveal more surprise guests today. Clinton is bringing billionaires Mark Cuban and Meg Whitman in an effort to [rattle Trump over his wealth](#). ([Jose DelReal](#))

**-- Clinton spent much of this week off the trail preparing for their final showdown, a strategy which Trump mocked at a Colorado rally.** He told supporters she was actually at home resting instead. "You know what the debate prep is? It's resting. It's lying down, going to sleep," he said. ([Jenna Johnson](#))

**-- The Clinton campaign has requested that Bill and Melania do not shake hands before tonight's debate.** Last time, Trump planned to parade three women who accused Clinton of sexual assault into the family seating area and force the former president to shake their hands as he crossed the room. ([Jeremy Peters and Maggie Haberman](#), The New York Times)



Chris Wallace moderated the first Republican primary debate in Aug. 2015 in Cleveland. (Aaron Josefczyk/Reuters)

-- **“Chris Wallace’s Debate Role Is a Bright Spot in a Dark Year for Fox,”** by the New York Times’s Michael Grynbaum: Chris is the first Fox journalist to take charge of a general election face-off. “It would be the most consequential night of Fox News’s year — if the network had not just endured the most traumatic period in its two-decade history. [For] the team of Fox anchors and producers (in Vegas) this week, Mr. Wallace’s star turn is a welcome source of pride. And, maybe, some relief. The selection of Mr. Wallace, a veteran broadcaster with a reputation for tough, mischief-making

questions, was particularly bolstering for Fox's news division, which has viewed itself as an unfairly maligned alternative to the network's stable of conservative commentators like Mr. Hannity and Bill O'Reilly."

-- **Politico's Glenn Thrush preemptively declares that "[Clinton will be on the defensive](#)":** "Trump's fitness to lead has, rightly, been the major focus of his conventionally lousy first debate and the national disgrace of his second one. But here's some good news for him! Trump has done such a masterful job of handing Clinton the election that the inevitable focus now is on her! America wants, demands, that final kick-the-tires test, as Barack Obama said of the process – and significant questions remain about her honesty, integrity, judgment and trustworthiness. ... Beatings, like bossa novas, have a predictable rhythm. **Trump's beating (however deserved or self-inflicted) has gone on for too long in terms of the cyclical attention span of modern media, and it's simply Hillary's turn.**"

-- **Trump's odds of turning around his campaign tonight are steep, the [Boston Globe's Matt Viser](#) posits:** "Clinton arrives in Las Vegas for the final debate like a poker player holding a full house, confident and careful. Trump is furiously raising his bet, acting as if he's holding a hot hand, when polls say all he's got is a pair of jacks."

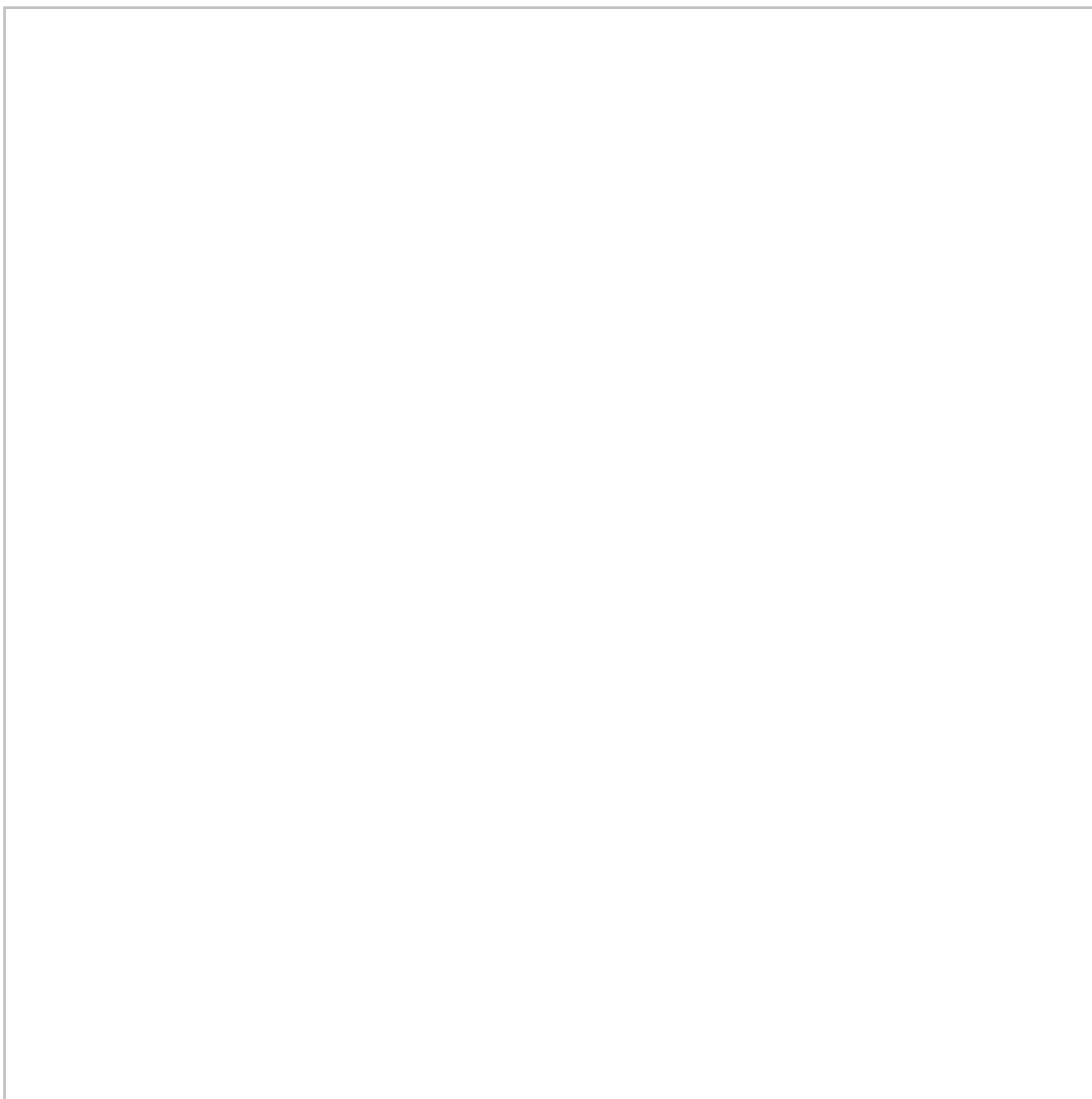
-- **Republicans are praying that Trump does not once again take Clinton's bait, per the Wall Street Journal's [Michael Bender and Laura Meckler](#):** "Democrats want Clinton to articulate a positive vision for the country, rising above the allegations of sexual misconduct and dishonesty that have permeated this election year. ...

Republicans say Trump needs to focus on his popular anti-establishment message and avoid placing any more attention on controversies over his treatment of women or rifts with fellow Republicans. 'For once he needs to make this a race that's not just about him,' said GOP consultant and former Romney adviser Kevin Madden. 'Clinton wants this race to be a referendum on Trump and his lack of temperament, and every time she lays the bait he never disappoints in taking it.'"

Welcome to the Daily 202, **PowerPost's** morning newsletter.  
With contributions from Elise Viebeck ([@eliseviebeck](#)).

[Sign up to receive the newsletter.](#)

**WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING:**



President Obama greets Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi at the White House.  
(EPA/Michael Reynolds)

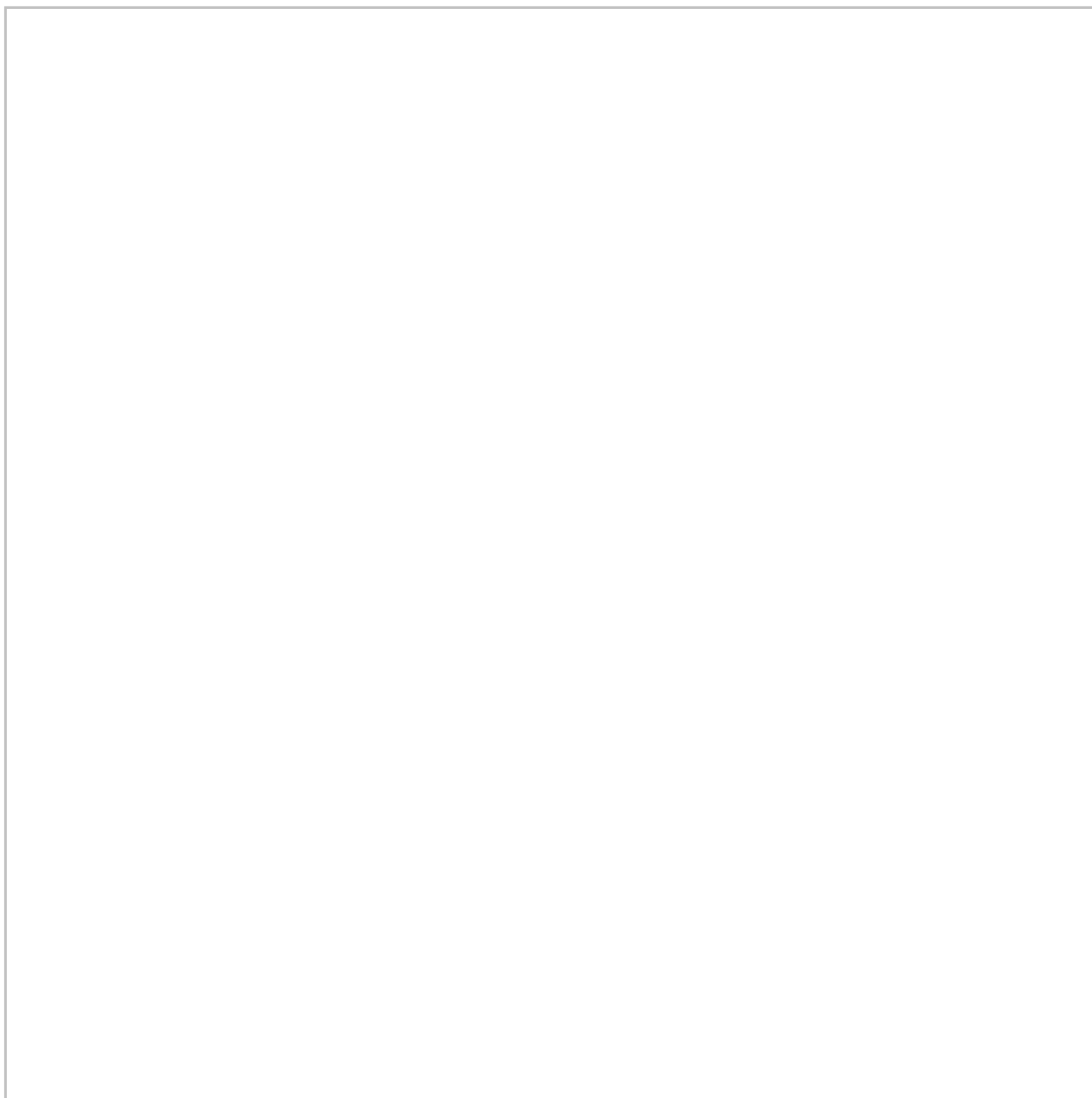
**-- President Obama hosted his final state dinner, honoring Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and his wife at a celebratory -- yet nostalgic -- reception.** “If there was a collective emotion that defined the night it’d be a mix of joy and pain,” [Helena Andrews-Dyer and Emily Heil wrote](#). “Everyone involved in the Obamas’ last black tie gala felt it. From guest chef Mario Batali, who said that knowing this dinner is the last adds its own brand of pride and pressure, to the president himself, who called the swanky swan song ‘a bittersweet moment.’ Held in a tent on the South Lawn dripping with chandeliers

and dotted with mirrored tables to conjure up the Italian 'fresco' technique, the evening featured a stroll through the first lady's kitchen garden ... a four-course meal prepared by Batali and a performance by Gwen Stefani ... But despite the night's obvious symbolism as a denouement the dinner's guests probably took the opening lines of the president's traditional toast to heart: **'In the immortal words of a great Italian American, Yogi Berra, 'It ain't over 'till it's over.'"**

The Obamas rewarded many of their most loyal staffers with seats at the dinner. **Among the 380 guests were the first lady's hair stylist, makeup artist, and personal trainer...**

FLOTUS wore a custom rose-gold chain-mail gown from Atelier Versace. It was a slinky gown with an asymmetrical neckline that slithered like liquid metal down her torso and around her hips. "It was pure Hollywood glamour," [writes Fashion Critic Robin Givhan](#).





The Ecuadorian national flag flies outside their embassy in London today. (Alastair Grant/AP)

**-- Ecuador acknowledged that it “temporarily restricted” the Internet access of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange at its United Kingdom embassy after WikiLeaks posted John Podesta's emails.** A foreign ministry statement said that while it stands by its decision in 2012 to grant Assange asylum, it doesn’t interfere in foreign elections. The ministry didn’t specify the extent of the restrictions on Assange’s cyber access, saying only that the limitations wouldn’t affect WikiLeaks’s ability to carry out its journalistic activities. Do not forget: Assange is hiding out in the

embassy to avoid facing trial for alleged sexual assault. ([Nick Miroff](#))

**-- Marco Rubio urged Trump and the RNC to stop attacking Clinton over hacked emails published by Wikileaks:** "As our intelligence agencies have said, these leaks are an effort by a foreign government to interfere with our electoral process and I will not indulge it," Rubio told [ABC News's Jon Karl in an interview](#). "Further, I want to warn my fellow Republicans who may want to capitalize politically on these leaks: Today it is the Democrats. Tomorrow it could be us."

**-- Speaking of insecure email servers, Trump lives in a glass house.** From Mother Jones' [Joseph Cox](#): "A researcher has found that a number of email servers linked to [Trump's] hotel and others businesses are running horribly out of date software which receive no security patches, and are lacking other precautions for keeping hackers out." A number of mail servers for TrumpOrg.com, a domain registered to The Trump Organization, are using end-of-life software, including the operating system Windows Server 2003 and IIS 6.0. "Running outdated software and operating systems for your publicly facing email infrastructure is problematic, especially when you're a high profile organisation," said security architect Kevin Beaumont. "During an election where cybersecurity is such a big issue, I was a little amazed at what I saw."



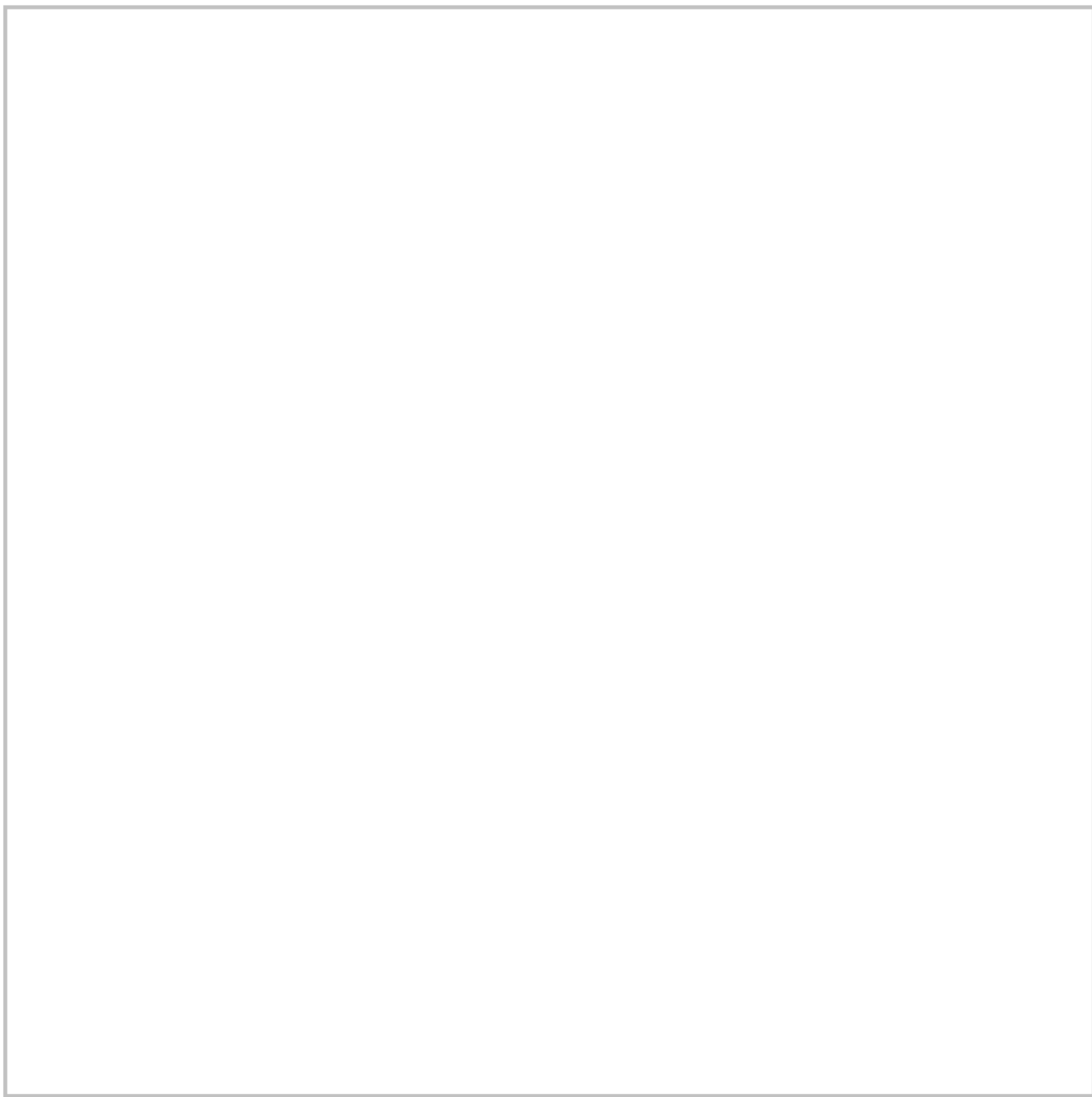
Filipino villagers gather as they prepare for a super typhoon that may hit their village. (EPA)

### GET SMART FAST:

1. **A dangerous super typhoon is spinning like a table saw towards the Philippines, barreling down with Category-5 level winds of 160 mph.** Local emergency managers are warning storm surge could exceed 15 feet when it makes landfall. The storm's arrival comes just days after *another* typhoon struck the country, killing at least two people. ([Angela Fritz](#))

2. **A former Arkansas judge has been arrested and accused of giving lenient sentences to male defendants in exchange for sexual favors – soliciting at least nine men between the ages of 16 and 22 for what he referred to as “community service.”** ([Kristine Guerra](#))
3. **A magistrate judge delivered a victory to a transgender high school student in Illinois, allowing her to continue to use a bathroom and locker room corresponding with her gender identity.** ([Derek Hawkins](#))
4. **More police officers have been killed in the line of duty so far this year than all of last year combined.** But federal statistics also show that being a law enforcement officer has continually gotten safer over the last four decades. Since the 1970s, the death toll for cops decreased by more than half. ([Mark Berman](#))
5. **Warring parties in Yemen agreed to a 72-hour ceasefire.** The U.N. hopes the temporary truce will lead to a “permanent and lasting end” to the conflict. ([AP](#))
6. **A new lawsuit accuses public schools in Flint, Mich., of failing to meet obligations to screen children for lead exposure.** The complaint alleges that the city’s public school system has also failed to provide critical services and interventions to counter the effects of lead exposure. ([Emma Brown](#))
7. **The University of Maryland agreed to hire more staff to address sexual assault on campus, after reports that a faculty shortage was slowing down open investigations. Student government leaders proposed a student fee to help fund the office.** ([Susan Svrluga](#))

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8. **Samsung is setting up pop-up phone exchange booths at airports across the country, allowing busy travelers to trade in Galaxy 7 smartphones that were recently banned from all U.S. flights.** But it's unclear what devices the kiosks will offer in replacement – and, as [Hayley Tsukayama](#) notes, a crowded airport is probably not the ideal place to make such a major purchase.
  9. **The Transylvania castle that inspired the “Dracula” novels will be open to two brave souls on Halloween night, thanks to an Airbnb contest.** Winners will spend the night in the 14th century digs, eating by candlelight and sleeping in velvet-lined coffins. ([Cleve R. Wootson Jr.](#))



Members of the Iraqi Special Operations Forces outside Mosul today. (Azad Lashkari/Reuters)

-- A dispatch from the front lines --> [\*\*“Evidence of a ‘difficult fight’ ahead as forces move toward ISIS-held Mosul,”\*\*](#) by **Kareem Fahim and Loveday Morris**: “To defend a few miles of unremarkable road in northern Iraq, flanked by farmland, the occasional factory and flyspeck hamlets and villages, the Islamic State militants seemed to spare no effort. They loaded a Volkswagen with explosives and secreted remote-detonated bombs ... They burned tires and dug large tunnels in houses ... The arsenal ultimately failed to protect the militants. But it seemed to slow down the action, tying up a large

contingent of Iraqi soldiers as they tried to clear the road and villages of booby traps, a few wearying feet at a time. There were still 12 grueling miles left to travel before reaching the city's outskirts. The struggle for Mosul ... is the largest and most complex so far in the battle against [ISIS] militants, who have been digging in for a fight. Residents who have recently fled the area ... say the Islamic State has been erecting concrete barricades and filling trenches with oil that can be set on fire to slow advancing forces. 'It's going to be a tough fight and a difficult fight,' Obama said on Tuesday. 'But my expectation is that ultimately it will be successful.'"



Makia Nunes, moments after she became a U.S. citizen yesterday, kisses a cardboard cutout of Hillary. She registered to vote immediately after her Naturalization Ceremony in Los Angeles. (Frederic J. Brown/AFP/Getty Images)

## **THE RACE CONTINUES TO MOVE AWAY FROM TRUMP:**

-- The chairman of a pro-Trump super PAC, Ed Rollins, told [Laura Ingraham](#) that it “would take a miracle at this point” for Trump to win.

-- Pre-spinning the loss, Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway says she cannot believe Clinton is not winning by a bigger margin given her numerous built-in advantages: “She has endless money. She’s got a lot of the media. She has a very popular president and first lady campaigning for her,” Conway [told Anderson Cooper](#). “I will tell you, I am mystified as to why she can’t get to those 52, 53 percent numbers in some of these states given the disadvantages we’re handed every day.”

-- Las Vegas bookies now have Clinton as [a six-to-one favorite](#).

-- A Washington Post/Survey Monkey poll of 15 battleground states gives Clinton a “decisive advantage” over Trump in the competition for Electoral College votes. From [Dan Balz and Scott Clement](#): “Based on the results ... along with assumptions of the likely outcomes in other states that have consistently voted for one party or the other, [Clinton] holds leads of four percentage points or more among likely voters in states that add up to 304 electoral votes. Trump, [meanwhile], has the advantage in states with an estimated electoral vote total of 138. Arizona, Florida, Ohio and Texas, which account for 96 electoral votes, remain as toss-ups.”



**Down-ballot Republicans continue to outperform Trump in our survey:** “Democrats need a net gain of five seats to take outright control -- four to exercise control if Clinton becomes president. The results showed Democrats with leads of four or more points in three states with GOP incumbents: New Hampshire, North Carolina and Wisconsin. Republican incumbents lead in Florida and Ohio, in the latter by a wide margin. Meanwhile, races in Nevada, for a seat currently held by Democrats, and Pennsylvania, for a seat now in Republican hands, continue to be close.”

**-- A [Bloomberg Politics poll](#) shows Clinton with a 9 point national lead (50-41). The two tied last month.** Trump is losing support among both men and those without college degrees. “This poll shows movement toward Clinton with all the right groups it takes to win,” said pollster J. Ann Selzer. “Their alignment with Clinton is a formidable change in the algebra.”

**-- An [Arizona Republic/Arizona State University](#) poll shows Clinton AHEAD in ARIZONA by 5 points.** Waning support for the Republican nominee does not appear to have shifted down-ballot, however, with McCain leading by 11 points over Democratic challenger Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick. **Support for the presidential candidates also appears to be somewhat baked into the cake, with two-thirds of voters saying they were not influenced by the previous two debates.** Of respondents who indicated the debate was influential, 16 percent said they were more likely to back Clinton. 9 percent said the same of Trump.

**-- The [University of Houston](#) finds Trump is only ahead by 3 points in Texas (41-38).**

-- **[St. Norbert College](#) shows Clinton leading by 8 points in Wisconsin (47-39).**

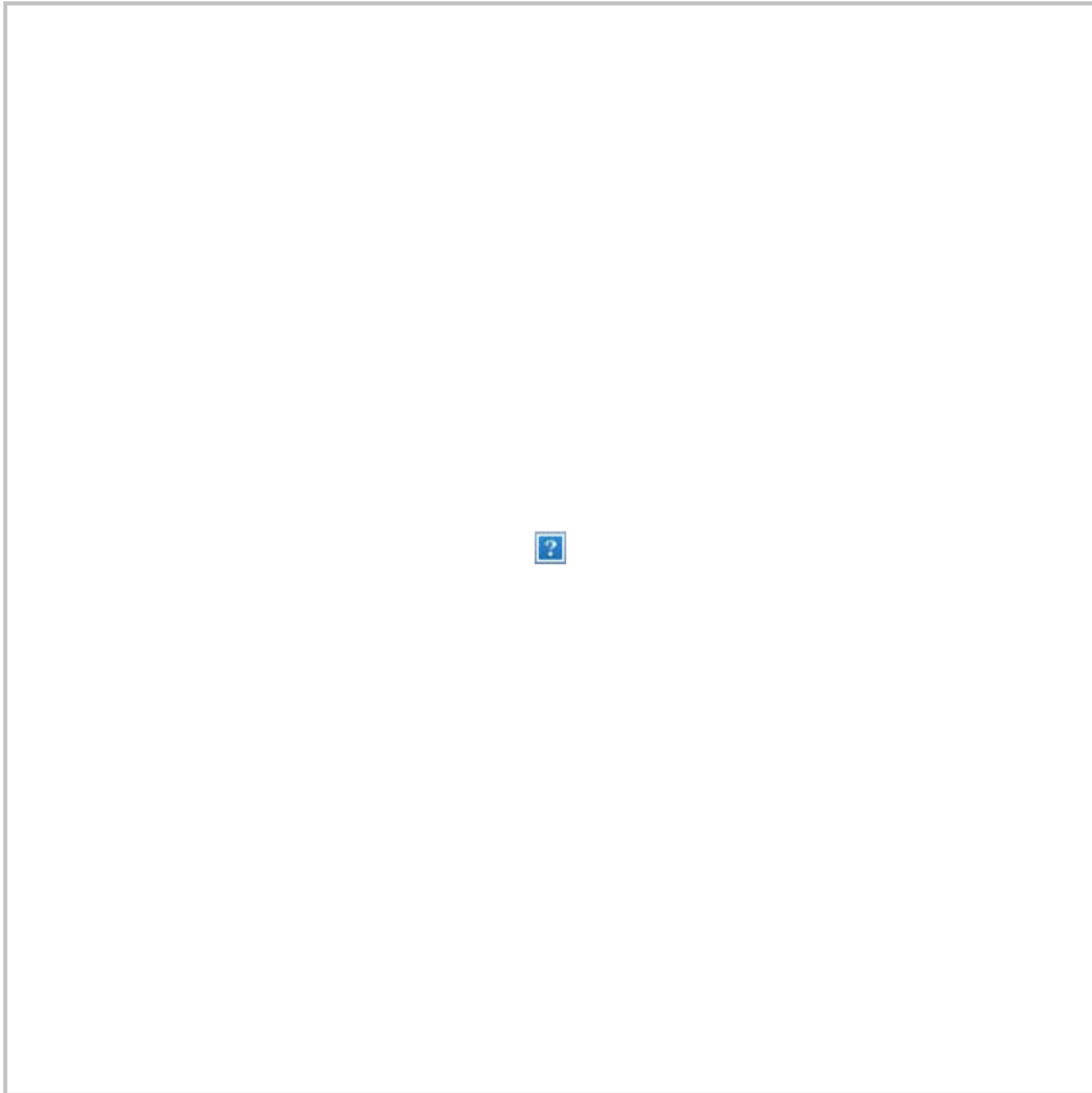
-- **[Monmouth University](#) puts Clinton up 7 points in Nevada (47-40).** Her surge in the state is largely attributed to younger, non-white voters moving into her column over the past month.

-- **[A Fox News national poll](#) shows Clinton up 6 points (45-39).**

-- **The Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun conducted a poll asking which candidate people thought would be more appropriate as the U.S. president. They found that only 3 percent of Japanese picked Trump, while 73 percent preferred Clinton.** The rest had no opinion. The wording is non-traditional, but WaPo pollster Scott Clement checked out the paper's methodology and says it is legit. This will not surprise close poll watchers. [Previous international surveys](#) have found Trump to be exceptionally unpopular.

-- **Fear of an imminent terrorist attack is one of the top concerns of people across the globe**, with most expecting extremist groups will acquire weapons of mass destruction, according to a new poll conducted in eight countries. From [Carol Morello](#): "The [survey, commissioned by the Center for Strategic and International Studies](#) (CSIS), showed that many people think their governments are not doing enough to combat violent extremism. And a majority in every country polled, including the United States, overwhelmingly approved all 21 options presented to them — among them, requiring identification cards for citizens and visitors; rigorous screening of immigrants; bans on incendiary religious speech; and monitoring of

phone calls, emails and social media."



Clinton takes a selfie with the crowd at a voter registration rally at Wayne State University in Detroit. (Reuters/Lucy Nicholson)

## **THE DAILY HILLARY:**

**-- Former FBI agent Brian McCauley pushed back on allegations of a "quid pro quo." He confirmed that he spoke to a top State Department official about changing the classified status of one of Clinton's emails, as well as a long-standing FBI request for additional staffing in U.S. embassies, but he denied that any**

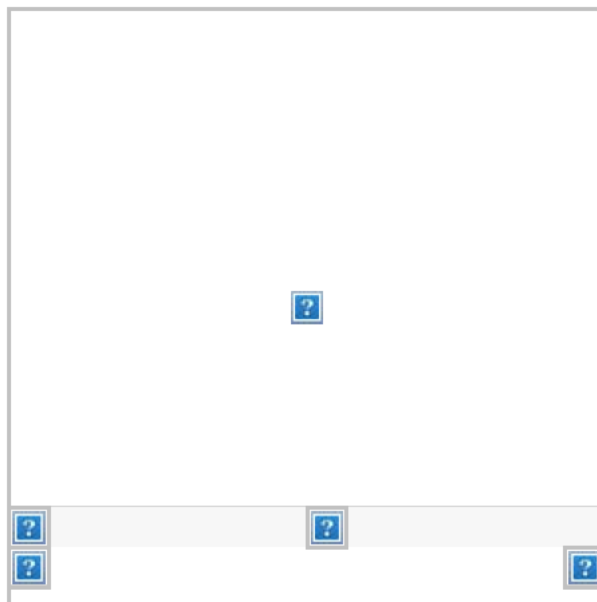
**inappropriate collusion ever took place.** In an interview with [Matt Zapotosky](#), McCauley acknowledged that he offered to do a favor in exchange for another favor, but before he had any inkling of what Kennedy wanted. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015. McCauley said that when he learned the missive concerned the attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, he told Kennedy he could not help him. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015.

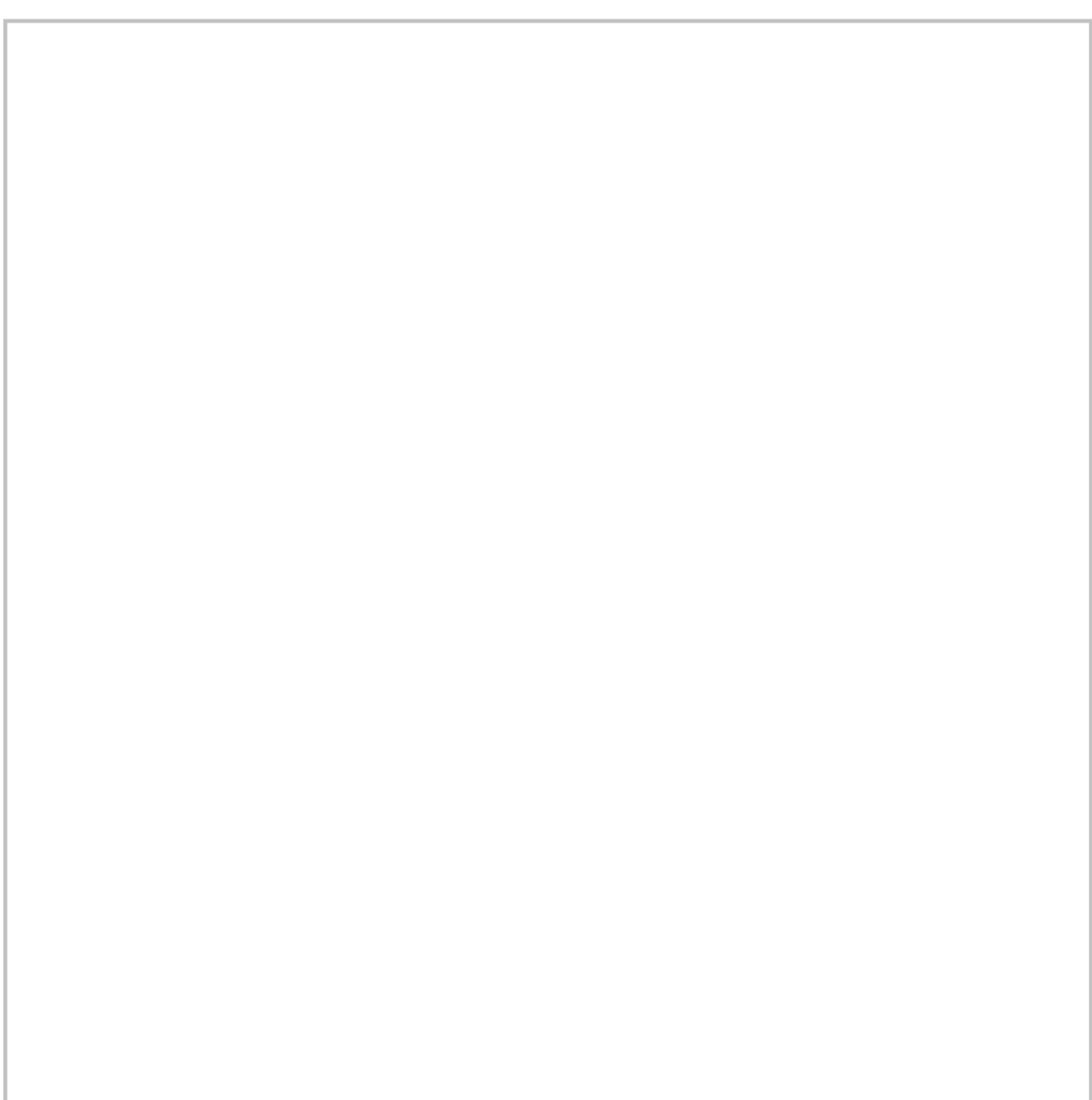
**-- “Black activists and organizers, frustrated with the Clinton campaign’s inability to engage young voters, have taken it upon themselves to challenge their peers to consider the consequences if Republicans take the White House,”** [Vanessa Williams reports](#). “They also have encouraged young voters to focus on state and local elections, because those officials make decisions about how police departments and schools are run, issues that more directly affect their lives. Younger African Americans, like many millennials, are not excited about this year’s presidential election ... [but] because Trump’s campaign has laid bare racist attitudes, the seeming indifference of black millennials to the election has sparked broad discussion within the African American community.”

**-- Seventy Nobel Laureates endorsed Clinton, arguing that her election is “crucial for safeguarding freedom and preserving a constitutional government.”** Signatories include world-renowned

experts in science, medicine and economics, such as chemist Peter Agre, economist Robert Shiller, and physicist Robert Woodrow Wilson. Separately, a group of 140 conservative writers urged voters to reject Trump, calling him “most dangerous to our nation’s founding ideals” in an open letter. Several former Republican White House staffers are on the list. ([New York Times](#))

ADVERTISEMENT





John Podesta boards the Clinton campaign plane in White Plains, New York, yesterday en route to Las Vegas. (Lucy Nicholson/Reuters)

-- **An early draft of Clinton's V.P. list:** John Podesta in mid-March emailed Clinton a preliminary list of names to consider for her running mate, organized into what he termed "rough food groups." WikiLeaks posted it yesterday, and [the Journal wrote it up](#):

The first group included her **Latino options**, including Secretary of Labor Tom Perez and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julián Castro.

The second consisted of **black candidates**, including Cory Booker and Eric Holder.

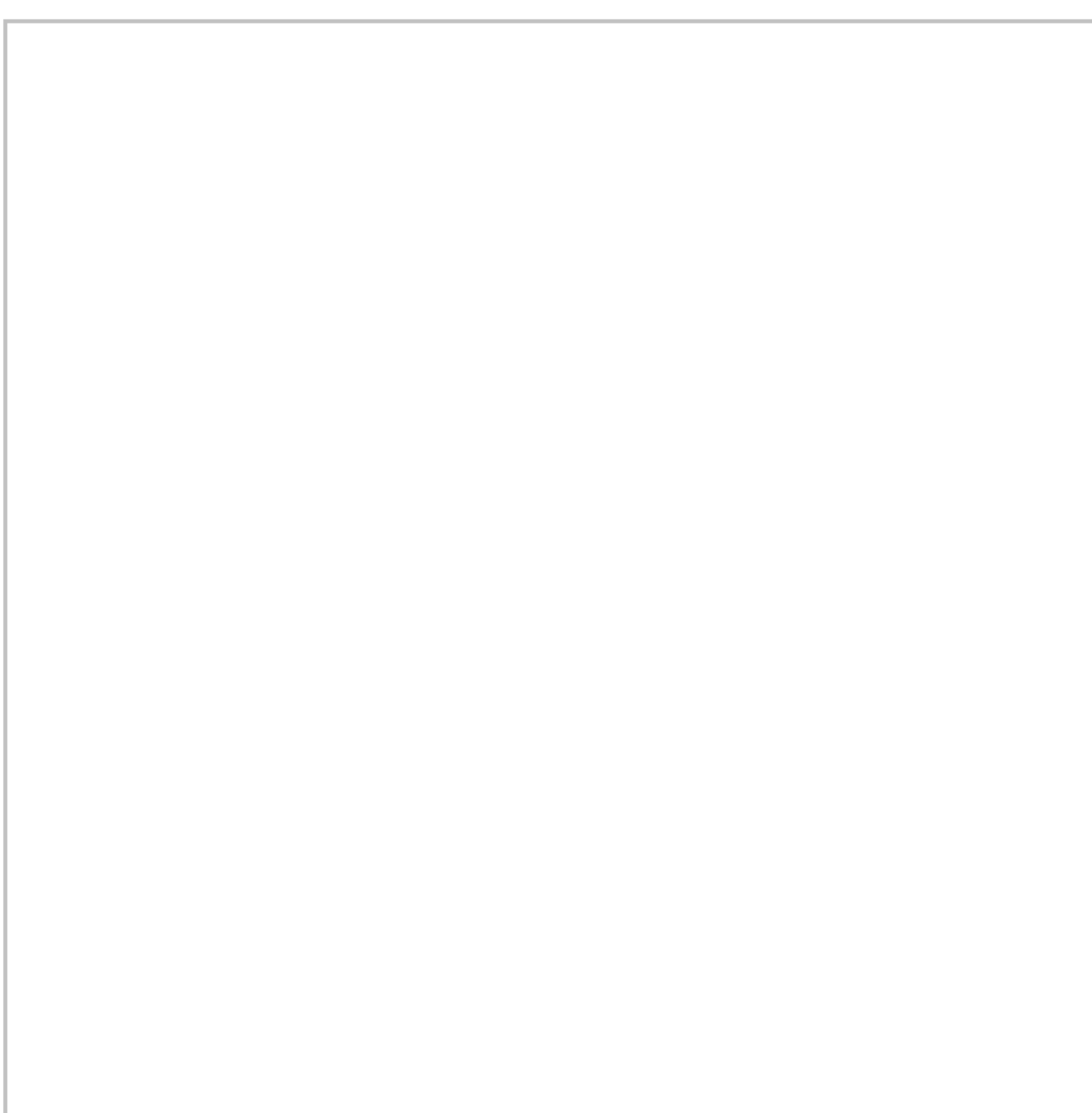
The third was **white men who could help in a swing state**, including Tim Kaine, Terry McAuliffe and Sherrod Brown.

Another section included **seven women**, including Elizabeth Warren and Jeanne Shaheen.

He also suggested **three military names**, including retired Marine Corps Gen. John Allen.

Podesta also floated **corporate options**, including Bill Gates, Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, Michael Bloomberg; Apple CEO Tim Cook and Coca-Cola Co. CEO Muhtar Kent.

The final category had just one name: **Bernie Sanders**.



Melania, Ivanka, Eric and Donald Trump, Jr. wait for the start of the second debate St. Louis. (John Locher/AP)

## **THE DAILY DONALD:**

-- **People Magazine published six stories** from friends and colleagues of Trump accuser **Natasha Stoyneff**, corroborating her accusation that the **Republican nominee forced himself on her in 2005**. Two people who went on the record are now People editors - deputy East Coast editor Mary Green and East Coast editor Liz McNeil. Another is Stoyneff's former journalism professor, who says she called him looking for advice immediately afterwards. And



yet another friend went on the record to back her claims that she ran into Melania Trump on Fifth Avenue after the assault. The report comes as both Donald and Melania have denied the story and threatened legal action.

**-- Video surfaced yesterday of Trump attacking Condi Rice in 2006: "I wish she was a b\*\*ch," he said.** "I don't care if she's a lovely woman. I want somebody that can go and make deals. She goes to countries, nothing ever happens. Except sound bytes." When asked if she had any response to the New York Daily News report on Trump's remarks, the former secretary of state emailed [CNN](#): "Can't wait until November 9!"

**-- Trump's alleged misconduct has started a national conversation about sexual assault.** From [Katie Zezima](#): "The debate has been particularly painful for many victims of sexual assault, who now must endure nonstop coverage of allegations of groping and kissing without consent — along with backlash against the women who made the claims about Trump. But in the 2016 presidential election, the issue has become sharply divided along partisan lines, including claims by some Trump allies that the behavior described by Trump's accusers ... might not be considered assault. The resistance against the accusers is particularly awkward for the Trump campaign, which simultaneously argues that women who accused Bill Clinton of wrongdoing years ago should be believed." GOP strategist Ashley O'Connor said that Trump is essentially saying, "You need to believe the people who have come forward and accused [Bill]. You need to believe that [Hillary] was attacking these women. But don't believe the women who have come

forward against me.”

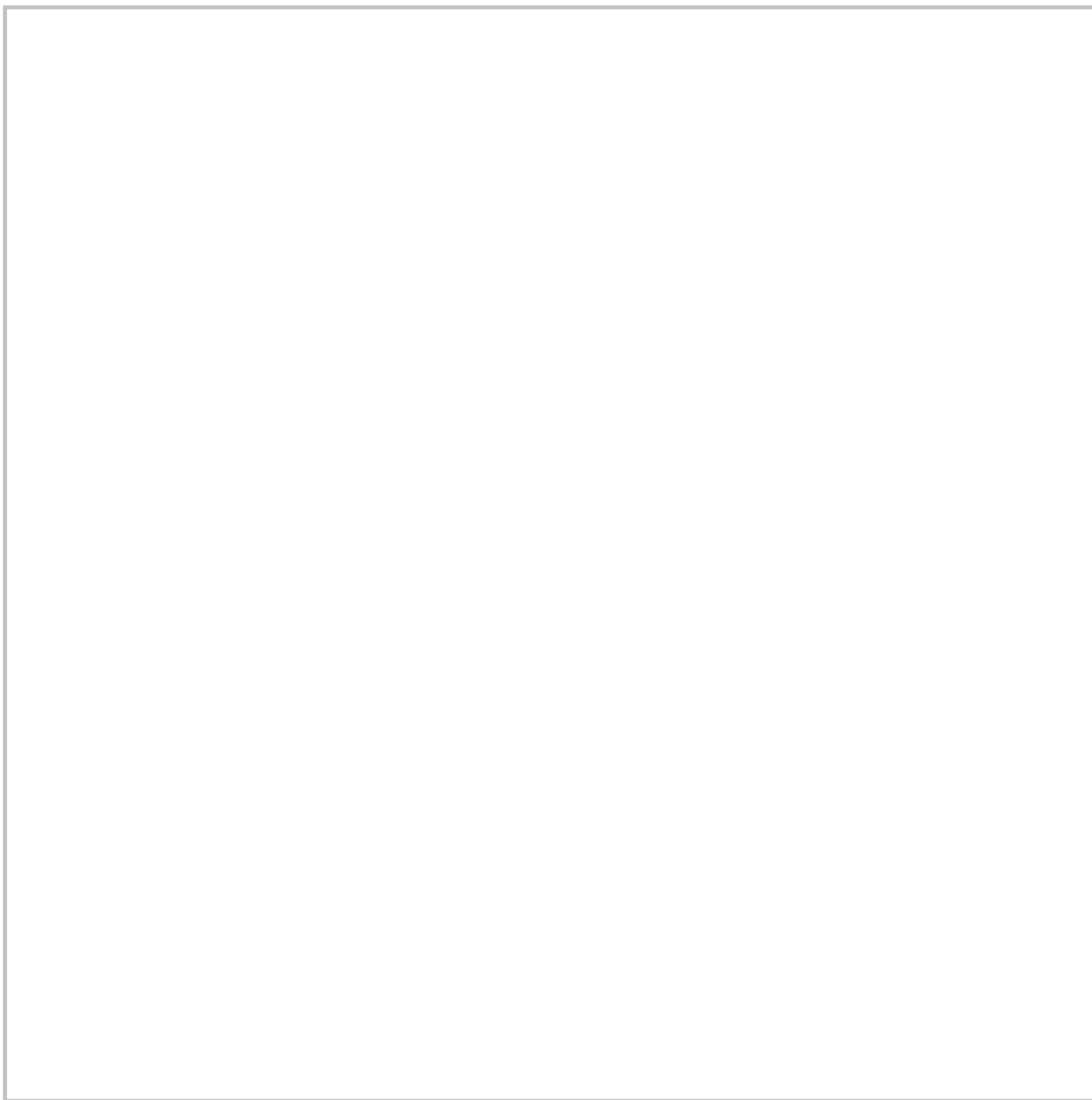
**-- Melania is taking a page from the old Hillary playbook:** “Until now, Melania Trump has declined to fulfill the mundane tasks of political wives, saying her duties to her young son are more important than the demand that a spouse go along for the ride to ‘humanize’ a candidate,” [Karen Tumulty writes](#). “Now, however, she has found herself in a time-honored duty for a political wife when a sex scandal hits — cleanup. [But] even as she defends her husband, [Melania] is willing to go only so far: In a moment where the script would appear to call for her to share a little more about ‘the man I know,’ she offered no personal glimpses of their lives. There was nothing more revealing than what one might hear in a campaign ad — outside, perhaps, her observation that she feels like she is living with two boys, not one.”

**-- Ivanka addressed her father’s lewd 2005 remarks for the first time, telling [Fast Company](#) that his conversation with Billy Bush was “clearly inappropriate and offensive.”** “I’m glad that he acknowledged this fact with an immediate apology to my family and the American people,” she added in a statement.

**-- Donald Jr. has made a series of offensive statements during interviews with shock-jock radio hosts.** CNN’s Andrew Kaczynski unearthed a [trove of controversial remarks](#) from the candidate’s son:

- **He joked about the Aurora movie theater shooting *on the same day 12 people were killed*:** After footage was played from a witness recounting the tragedy, Trump Jr. quipped that the survivor will still give the film “two thumbs up.”

- **He joked about child abuse at beauty pageants:** "They yell at the kids like, yeah 'You didn't do good, you forgot to turn! You forgot your turn!'" a host said, depicting the role of a stage parent. "The kids, they're crying," Trump Jr. said. "I just wanna play with Barbie." "She beats me when you're not here," said the host. "She's like limping," added Trump Jr., mocking a child's voice. "Help me, help me." **Trump Jr. added of the moms at beauty pageants, "They're all fat. Ugly."**
- **On not being able to mock overweight people:** "By the way you can't ... even make fat jokes now ... that's almost the worst one," he said. "It's easier to, like, do a racial thing, than it is a fat one because everyone knows they're fat and they get really offended."



Trump tells supporters to 'watch' St. Louis, Philadelphia and Chicago for voter fraud

**-- Doubling down on his rigged election rhetoric, Trump yesterday provided his supporters with a list of three cities where they should watch for corruption on Election Day.** "Take a look at St. Louis. Take a look at Philadelphia. Take a look at Chicago," Trump said in Colorado. "Look, look, if nothing else, people are going to be watching on November 8. Watch Philadelphia. Watch St. Louis. Watch Chicago, watch Chicago. Watch so many other places." (Two of those cities are in states that are not considered competitive, [Jenna Johnson notes](#).)

**-- Local election officials are panicking that Trump's reckless rhetoric will lead his supporters to bring guns to polling places, but they're mostly powerless to do anything about it:** "The Prince William County (Virginia) electoral board ... considered seeking a one-day ban on weapons at polling places located on private property but was rebuked by a gun-friendly state legislator," [Patricia Sullivan reports](#). "Del. Robert G. Marshall (R-Prince William) sent a letter to the board pointing out that it has no power to ban guns from polling places except for schools and courthouses, where weapons are prohibited by state law. ... Virginia's election officials have been discussing on their private email list the possibility of intimidation or violence Nov. 8 and talking about what to do about unruly observers. ... Seventy of Prince William's 91 polling places are in schools, with the remaining 21 in churches, fire halls and community centers. Firearms are allowed in county government buildings, such as fire stations, libraries and community centers."

**-- Trump called for a Constitutional amendment to put in place congressional term limits, but he provided no details about the details.** ([Jenna Johnson](#))



Supporters of Nicolas Maduro display a giant inflatable dummy depicting late President Hugo Chavez in Caracas. (Juan Barreto/Getty)

-- **Venezuelan journalist and political scientist [Francisco Toro](#) argues that Trump really is much more like Nicolás Maduro than Hugo Chavez:** “Again and again, since taking over in 2013, Maduro has run roughshod over the constitution in ways Chávez never dared to ... [and] for Venezuelans, the past year has been an object lesson in how dangerous this approach can be. Last week, we followed this crazy dynamic off the deep end, when the court overturned 800 years of constitutional practice, dating back to the original Magna Carta, ruling that when the constitution says the legislative branch has to

vote on the national budget, it means the president can just approve budgets on his own. ... **Having your democracy commit suicide under the lure of a charismatic demagogue is not the kind of experience you can fully make sense of unless you've lived it in your own skin.** Before 2016, no explanation I could give my American friends was enough. Now, my American friends can just turn on CNN and watch it happening live.”

### **THE BATTLEGROUND:**

-- **A civil rights group filed a federal lawsuit to force Virginia to extend its voter registration period, after the state's online system crashed on Monday.** The technological glitch prohibited registration from an unknown number of participants. Some have estimated the number to be in the “tens of thousands.” ([Laura Vozzella](#))

-- **Pro-Clinton super PAC Priorities USA announced it will begin airing ads in two Senate races and will start airing television and radio ads in Georgia to boost Clinton.** “New ads will support Gov. Maggie Hassan in the New Hampshire Senate race against Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte and Katie McGinty in the Pennsylvania Senate race against Sen. Patrick J. Toomey,” [Abby Phillip writes](#). “The super PAC also plans a new seven-figure television ad buy in Georgia in addition to new radio ads targeted at African American voters. The state has not been won by the Democratic presidential nominee since 1992.”

-- **DNC officials issued an apology after one of its campaign buses was recorded illegally dumping sewage into a Georgia**



**storm drain, calling the leak an “honest” but “unacceptable” mistake.** The driver of the bus – adorned with larger-than-life faces of Clinton and Kaine – said the vehicle’s sewage tank was full and leaking out. A guy in an auto parts repair store spotted him and record it. ([Katie Mettler](#))

**-- The race for Rep. Barbara Comstock’s House seat in Northern Virginia has tightened.** From [Jenna Portnoy](#): The Cook Political Report is moving the race up to toss-up, while the Rothenberg & Gonzales Political Report already considers it a toss-up district, tilting to the Republican. “Experts consider the district among the most competitive in the nation despite lackluster fundraising numbers from Democratic challenger LuAnn Bennett and evidence [Trump] might not be the anchor on down-ballot candidates some had expected,” Portnoy writes. The two will face off this morning for the final debate of the campaign.

**-- “[Clinton Challenges Trump for a Traditional Republican Bloc: White Catholics](#),” by the New York Times's Jason Horowitz in Philly:** “Since the election of Ronald Reagan, white Roman Catholics have flocked to Republican nominees for a raft of reasons, including their stances on social issues like abortion and same-sex marriage. But this year, something seems different. ‘Trump is the exception to the rule,’ said 67-year-old Carol Robinson, leaving an afternoon prayer meeting in Philadelphia. ‘He’s a loose cannon.’ Roman Catholics are the country’s second-largest religious group after evangelical Protestants, and they are as diverse as the country itself, with young liberals, cultural conservatives and, increasingly, Democratic-leaning Hispanics.”



**One quiet influencer could be Pope Francis**, wh emphasizes inclusion and the welfare of the poor over divisive issues like abortion and homosexuality. In February, he suggested Trump “is not a Christian.”

**-- Harry Reid reflects on when Trump used to be one of his donors in [an interview with Paul Kane](#):** “Reid found a priceless piece of memorabilia recently while sorting through 34 years of congressional papers. It’s a picture of Reid with [Trump], inside the real-estate developer’s Manhattan home, both men smiling. He’s pretty sure it’s from 1992, when [he] was running his first Senate reelection bid and when [Trump] was happy to help Democrats. Reid appreciated Trump’s generosity. ‘He wasn’t much of a big shot then, neither was I,’ Reid recalled ... Over the years when Trump was a reliable donor to Senate Democrats, Reid saw no signs of a future Republican presidential candidate who he would later eviscerate as a ‘racist’ and a ‘human leech.’ Now, heading into political twilight, the former boxer is clearly relishing what is essentially his last campaign through attacks on Trump ... ‘I’m kind of an unusual politician,’ he said.”



Libertarian Lucy Brenton, Democrat Evan Bayh and Republican Todd Young debate in Indianapolis last night. (AP Photo/Michael Conroy, Pool)

## **SENATE DEBATES:**

-- **“Indiana’s Senate race got personal Tuesday,” the [Indianapolis Star’s](#) Maureen Groppe and James Briggs write.**

“After weeks of attacking each other in campaign commercials, former Sen. Evan Bayh and GOP Rep. Todd Young directly accused each other of not representing Hoosiers’ interests in their [sole debate] ... Young repeatedly charged Bayh, a Democrat, with following the orders of Washington insiders and looking out for

himself. 'Evan Bayh took the money and ran,' Young said after criticizing Bayh's vote for the Affordable Care Act. 'He joined a major lobbying firm in Washington, D.C., and he represented clients that needed relief from the very problem he created from Obamacare.' Bayh said Young has voted against the needs of veterans, seniors and workers who are losing their jobs to overseas competition. And he accused Young of lying about his record. 'Congressman Young has told so many whoppers here tonight, it's hard to keep track,'" Bayh said.

**-- The final debate between Sen. Ron Johnson and Democrat Russ Feingold also turned personal, the [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel's Bill Glauber reports](#):** "Skirmishing over campaign finance, national security, the economy and the presidential candidates, the men engaged in a feisty 90-minute clash ... With polls showing a tight race, there was little room for error as the candidates sought to shore up their base support while reaching out to the small number of undecided voters. In a sense, the debate was six years in the making as the two men entered the closing stretch of their rematch race. Throughout the debate, Feingold claimed that Johnson 'didn't have a plan' on issues. Johnson fired back, 'Senator Feingold is always going to have a plan to grow government.'" "I will stand with the people of this state," Feingold said. "Senator Johnson stands with the corporations, the billionaires and the multi-millionaires." In rebuttal, Johnson said he "understands what it's like to work": "I'm the working man," he said. "I've worked hard all my life."



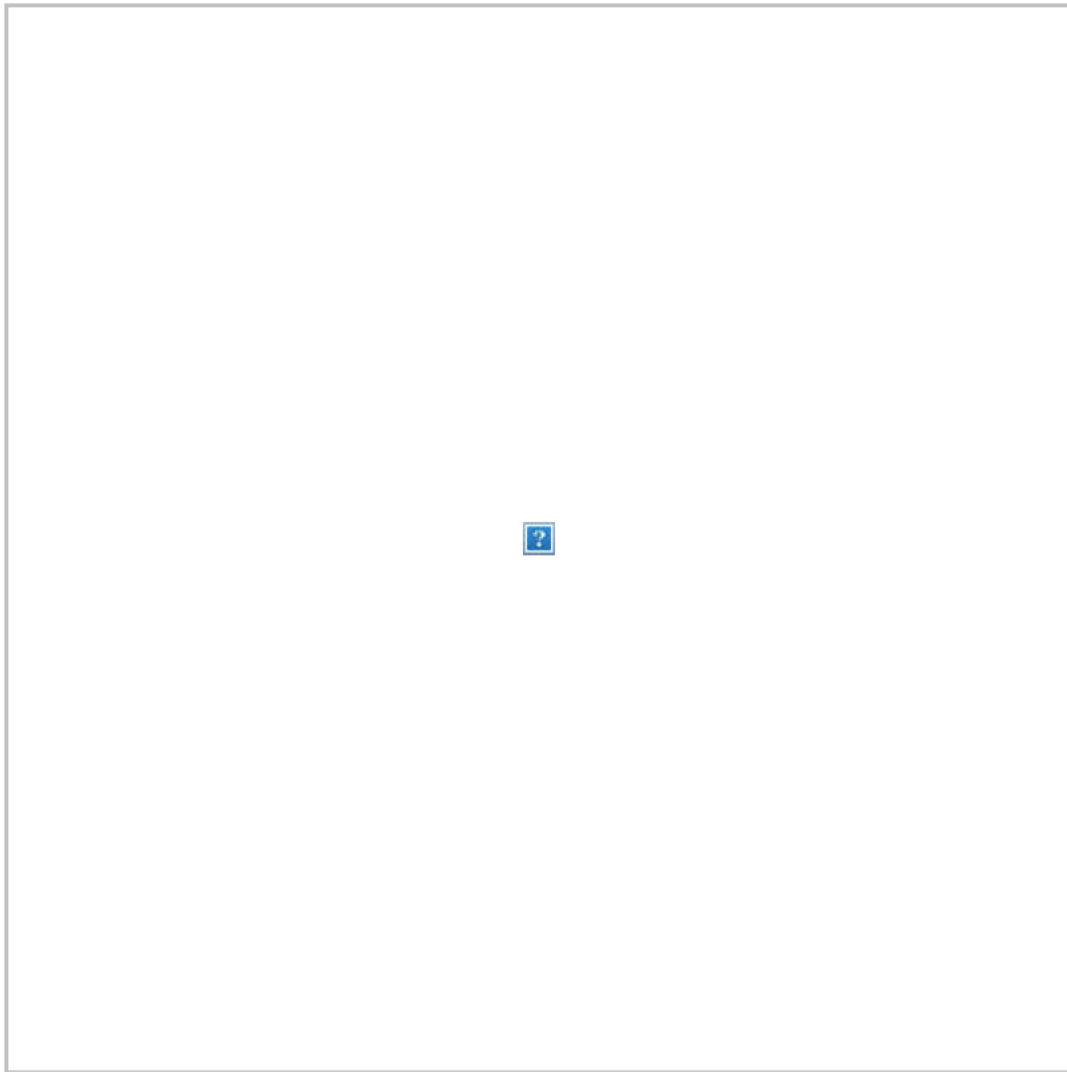
A pan handler sits with a "Give me \$1 or I'm voting for Trump" sign in Manhattan.  
(Carlo Allegri)

### **IT'S SILLY SEASON:**

**-- A Wisconsin woman was arrested after she spread peanut butter on 30 cars that she believed belonged to Trump supporters. But it turns out the cars actually belonged to members of a local conservation club!** "Witnesses said 32-year-old Christina Ferguson stormed into the club meeting on Monday night, holding what a Portage County deputy's report described as a 'family-size jar of low-sodium, creamy natural Jif,'" [HuffPost](#) reports. "Officers

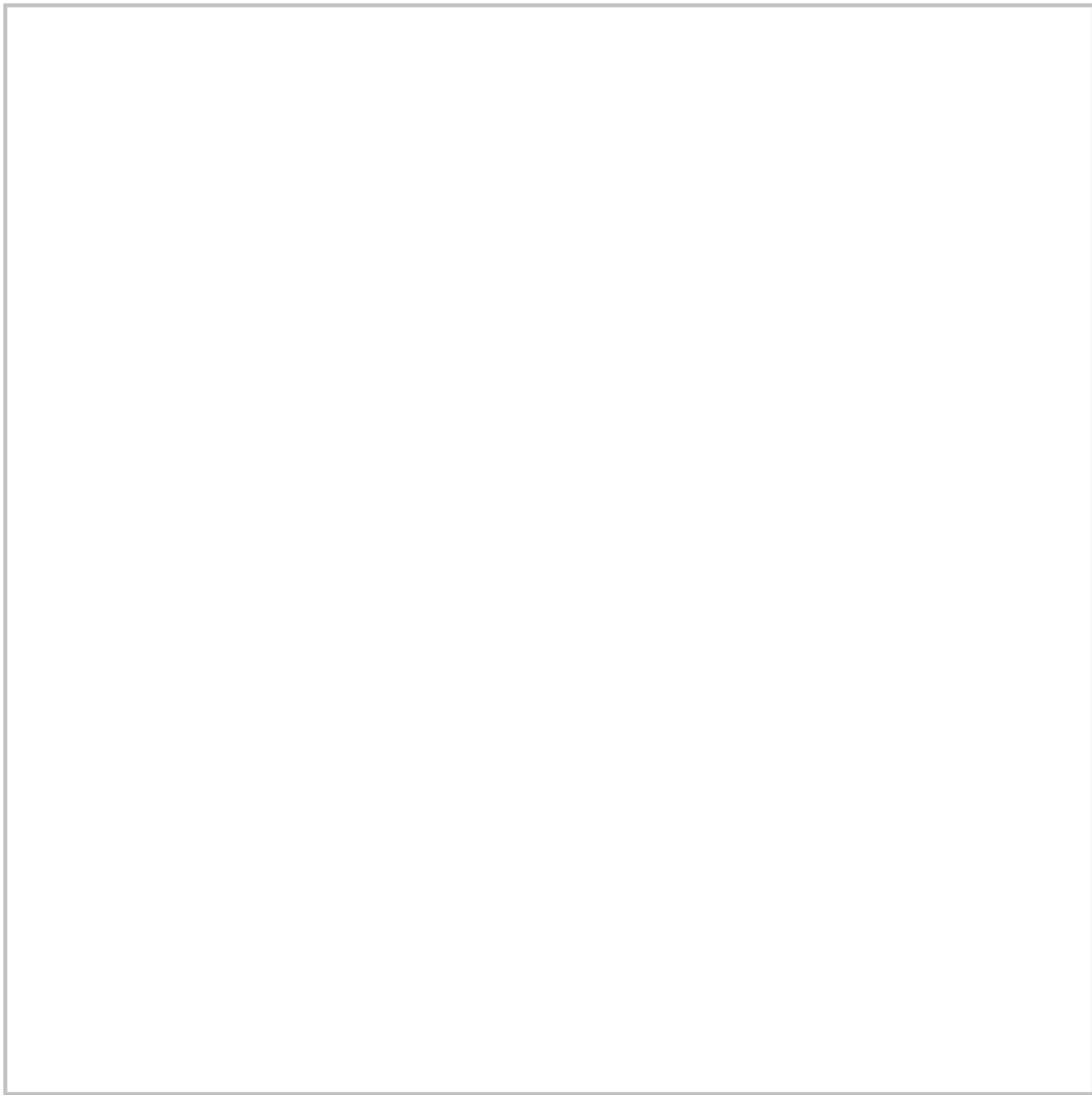
said Ferguson grew emotional as she explained how much she loved Clinton and hated Trump. She then explained why she'd misused peanut butter. 'Peanut butter is better than fire-bombing,' the officer quoted her as saying. She added that Trump wants to fire-bomb everybody in other countries."

**-- A naked, hoofed statue of Hillary prompted a scuffle in Manhattan. An outraged Clinton supporter destroyed it while the artist tried in vain to save it, the [New York Post](#). ([Travis Andrews](#))**



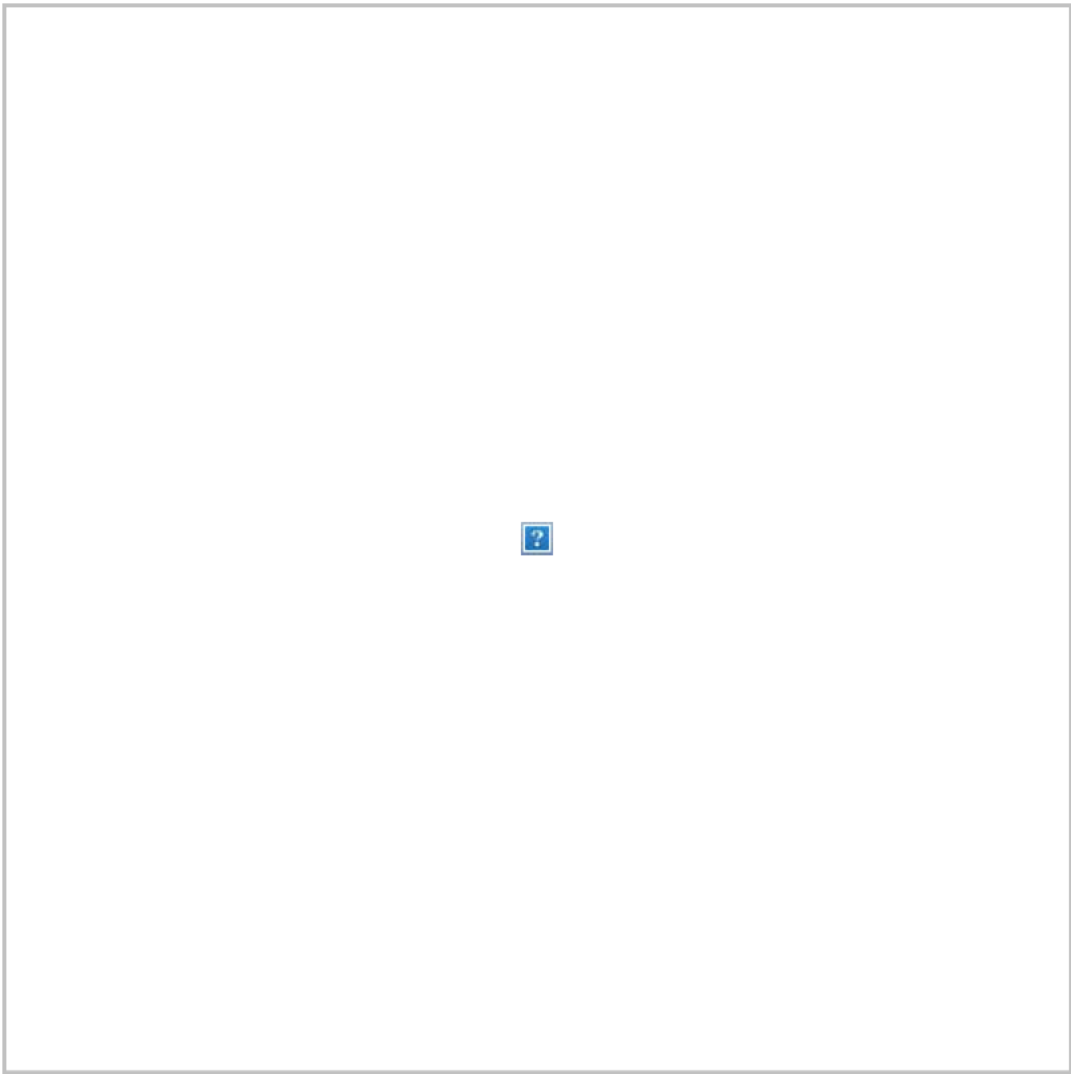
**SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:**

**Over 62 million people on Facebook in the U.S. posted about, shared, liked or commented on content related to Trump over 931 million times in the last month.** The chart below shows the unique number of people on Facebook engaging in the conversation about each candidate – as well as the number of interactions those people generated. Interactions represents the total aggregate number of likes, posts, comments and shares made about a particular candidate within the timeframe. The interactions figure includes not only the activity on the candidate's page, but all of the likes, posts, comments and shares about that candidate from throughout Facebook:



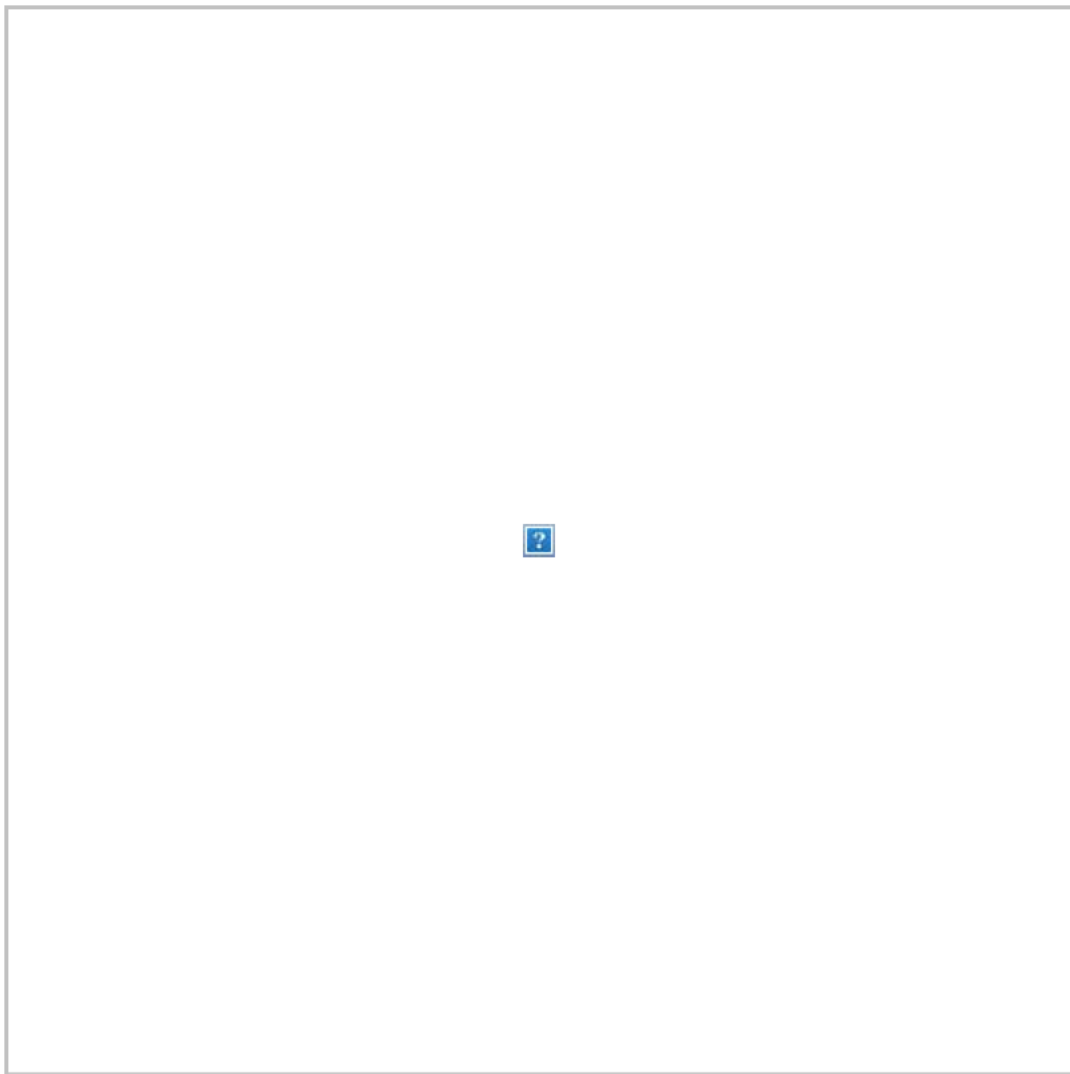
**The top five most talked about political topics on Facebook over the past month:** 1. Crime & Criminal Justice; 2. Religion; 3. Taxes; 4. Government Ethics; 5. Racial Issues.

The Onion is on the lookout for late-breaking Trump news:

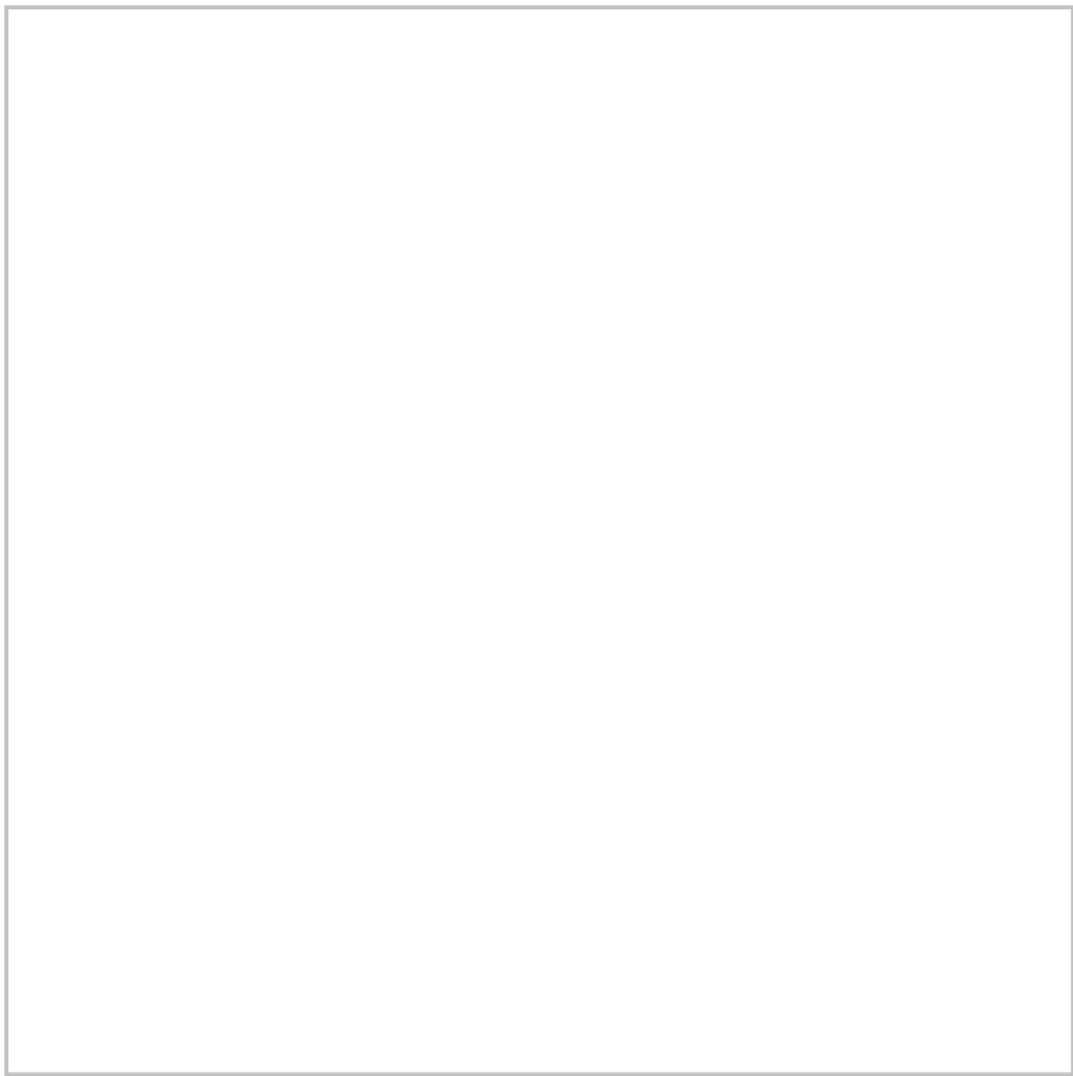


Coming soon to a Las Vegas billboard:



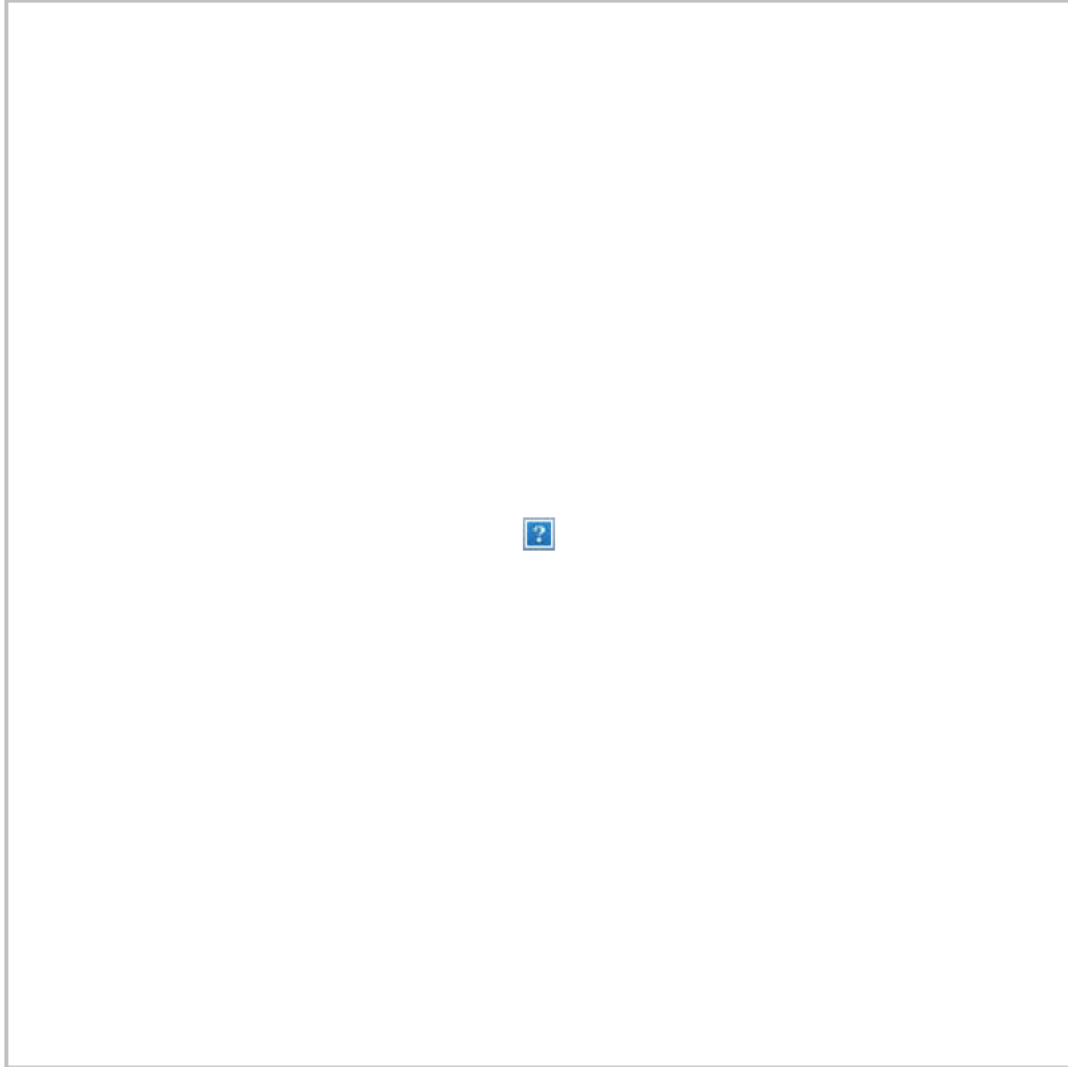


Fox's Sean Hannity and CNN's Brian Stelter went back-and-forth on the issue of voter fraud:

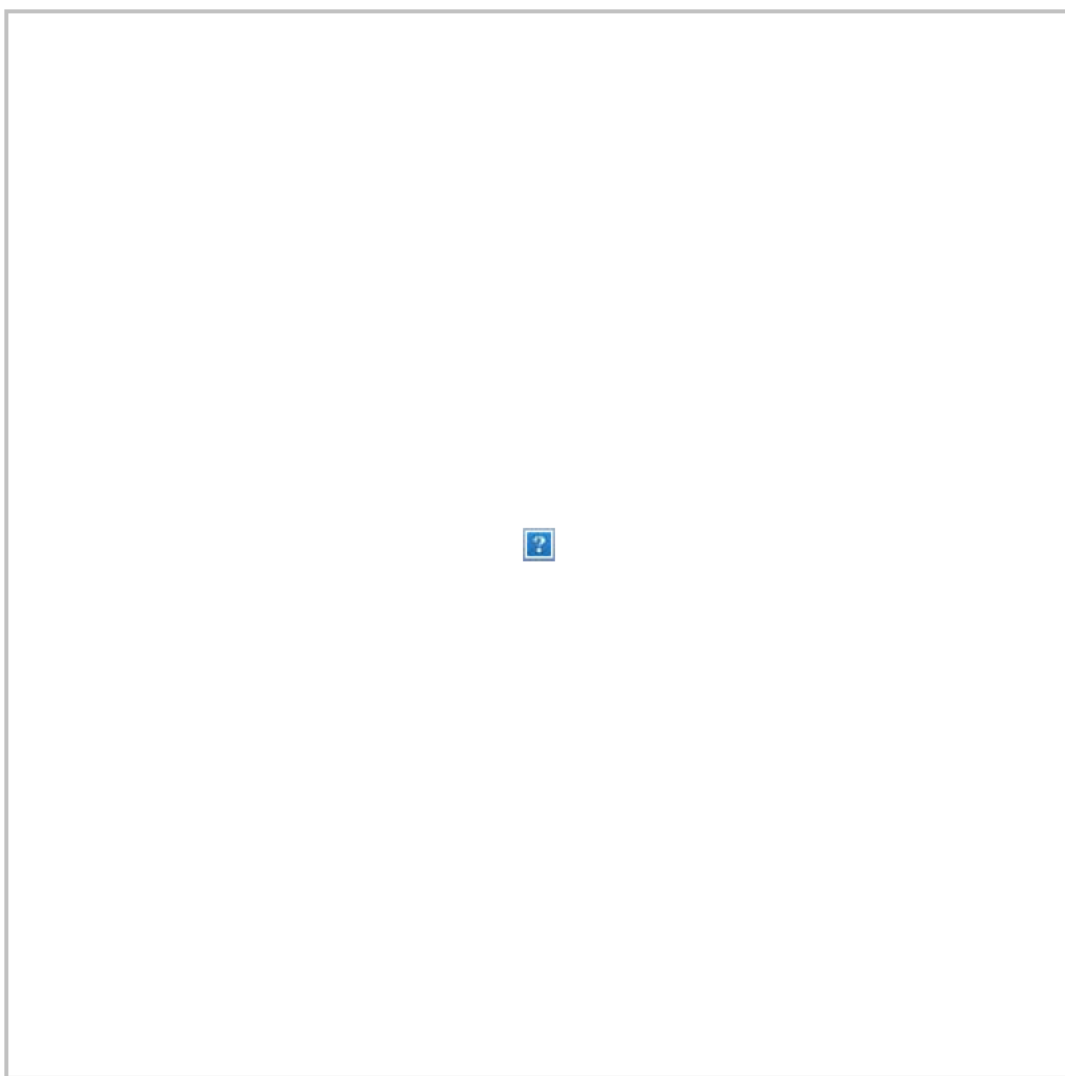


Mike Pence observed some of the damage from the firebombing in North Carolina and called it "an act of political terrorism":

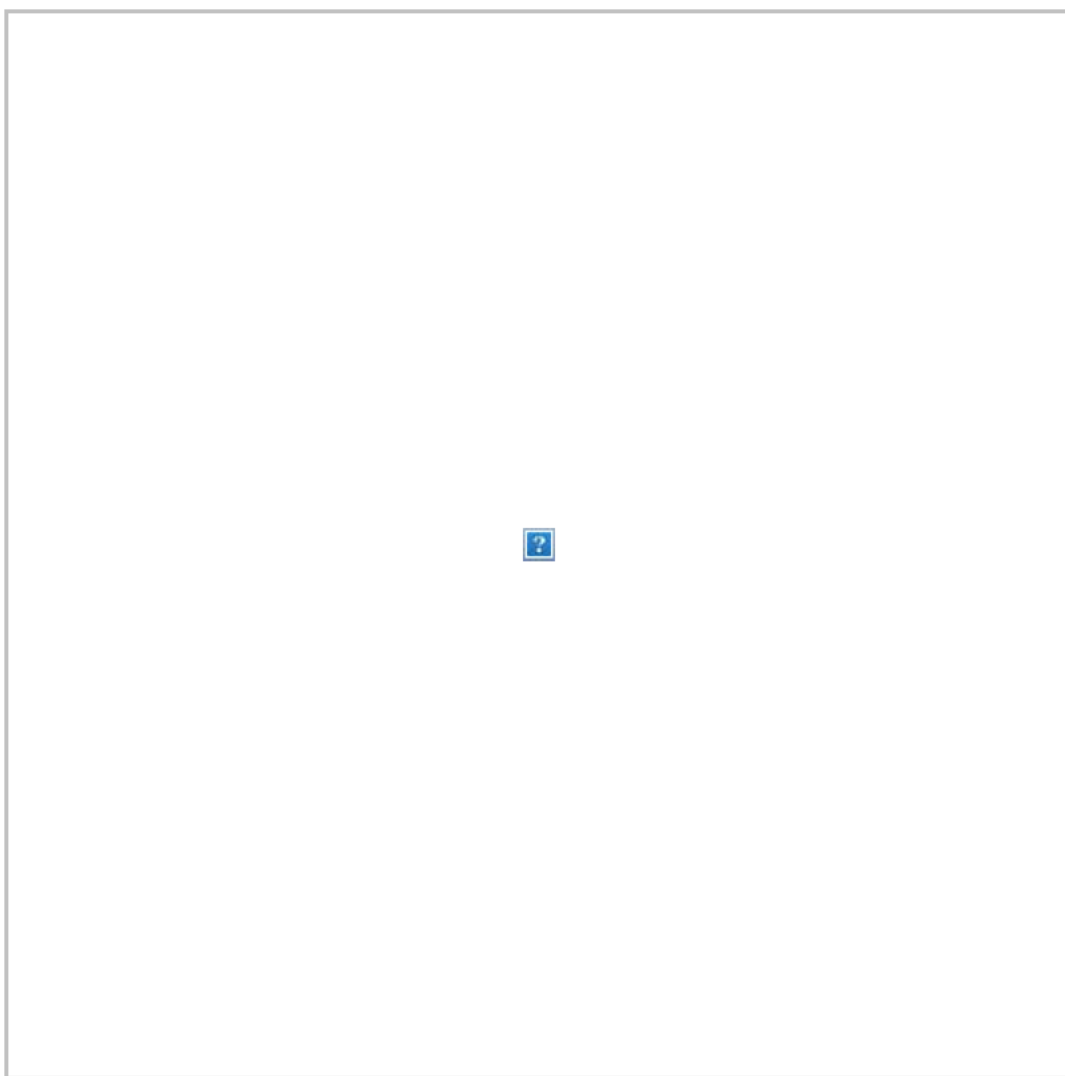
[Vogue endorsed Clinton](#), making the first ever political endorsement in the magazine's history. "We understand that Clinton has not always been a perfect candidate, yet her fierce intelligence and considerable experience are reflected in policies and positions that are clear, sound and hopeful," the magazine's editors write.



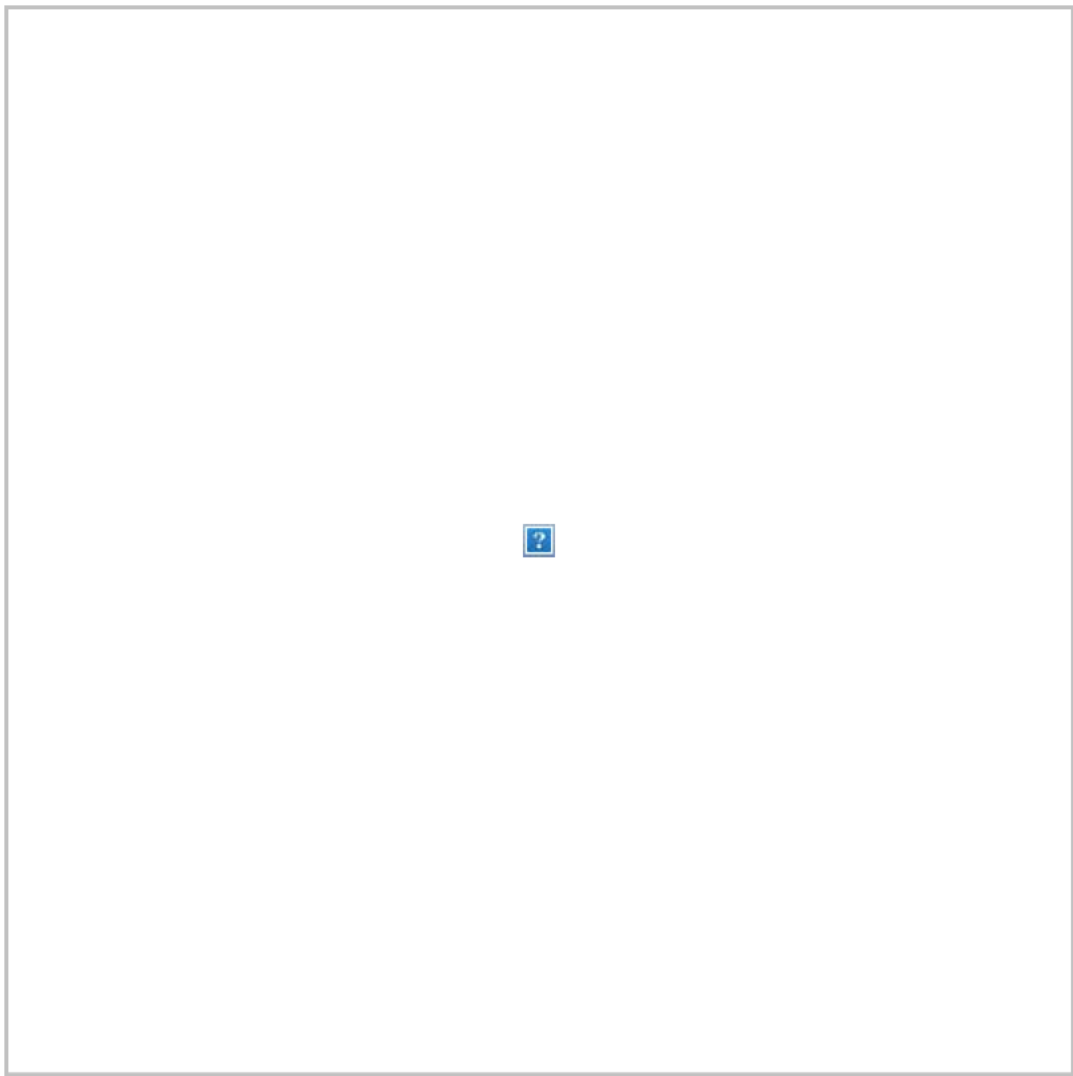
This is pretty funny:



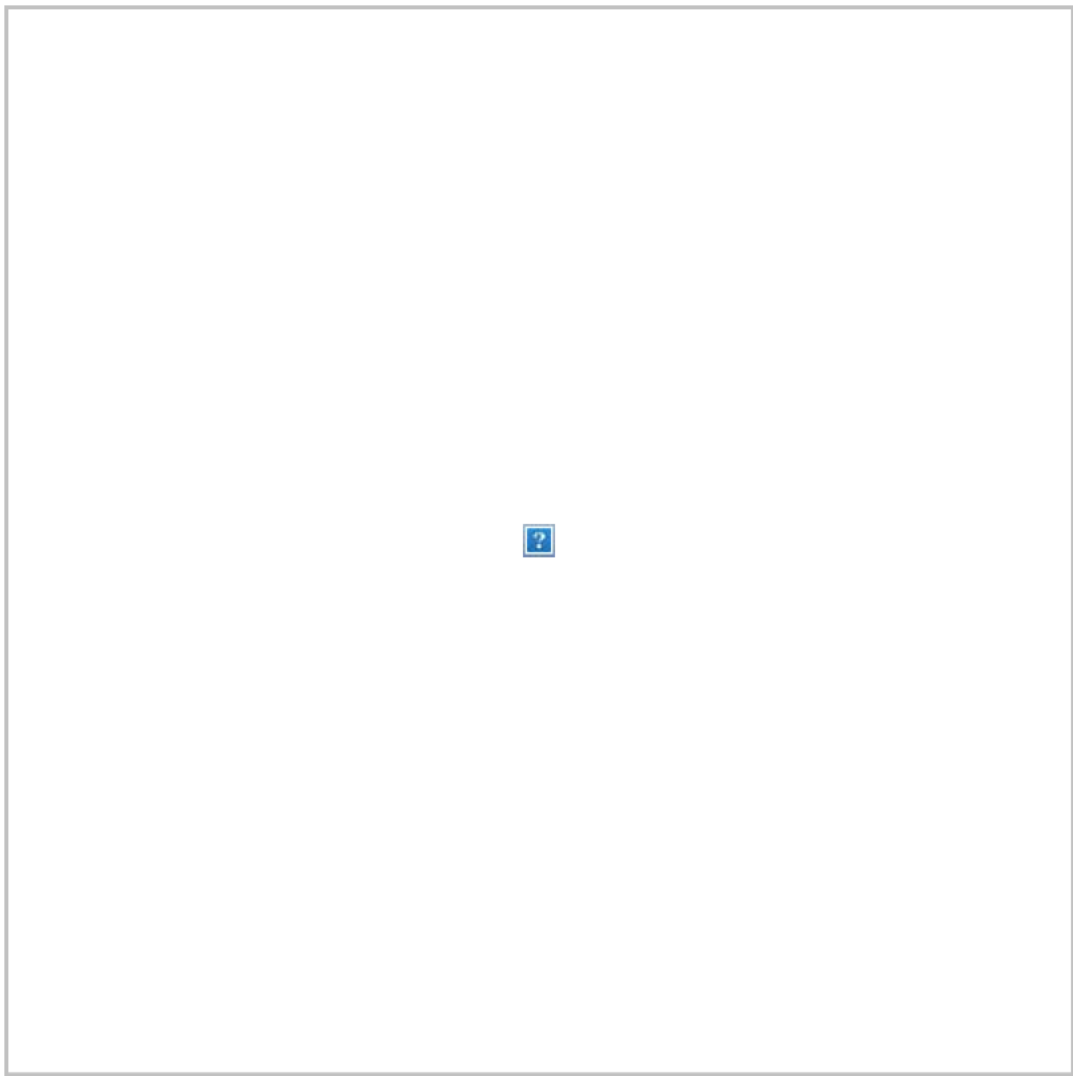
Wyclef Jean posted this photo:



Debra Messing got a thank-you note from the White House:



Jason Chaffetz took this selfie while camping:



Kevin McCarthy went to a Dodgers game:



### GOOD READS FROM ELSEWHERE:

-- New York Times, "[David Letterman \(and His Beard\) Shop at Target These Days](#)," by Dave Itzkoff: "Why does David Letterman have a beard? To put it more precisely: Why did Mr. Letterman, after stepping down from CBS's 'Late Show' and a 33-year career ... spend the past year and a half cultivating a fleecy and prodigious mound of facial hair ...? Did he grow these imposing bristles to keep the world at bay while he withdrew into retirement?" Was it his way of saying he was no longer the man who had spent 6,000 evenings reading Top 10 lists and interviewing 20,000 guests? **Actually, he**



**explained, 'I just got tired of shaving every day, but then it became something else, and I'm not quite sure what it became.'**

In his dry Midwestern delivery, tinged with a new and unaccustomed element of wistfulness, he said: 'The beard is a good reminder to me that that was a different life. I'm hopeful that I will either find something else, or something else will be presented to me.' ... With years of vitality left, he has been trying, since his 'Late Show' farewell in May 2015, to figure out what his next step should be."

**-- National security reporter Walter Pincus prepared a list of pressing foreign policy questions that Trump and Clinton should answer in tonight's debate.** Some highlights from [his column for the Cipher Brief](#):

- **For Trump, on Russia:** "At the last debate, despite your being briefed by intelligence analysts and after Director of National Intelligence James Clapper publicly identified Russia as doing the hacking, you said [Clinton] 'doesn't know if it's the Russians doing the hacking,' and then added, 'Maybe there is no hacking.' Do you not trust the U.S. intelligence community determination ... that the Russians are behind the hacking of the [DNC] emails?"
- **For Clinton, on Syria:** "You are advocating a no-fly zone and safe zones. Define just what would be involved on the part of the U.S. and its allies – including forces in the air and on the ground [for protection] ... Would you seek congressional authorization to use American armed forces which will have to strike at Syrian government targets, something normally considered an act of war?"

**For Trump, on Syria:** On Oct. 9, you said “Syria is no longer Syria. Syria is Russia and it’s Iran.’ You also said Assad forces and the Russians in Syria were fighting ISIS, and implied if you were president you would no longer support any anti-Assad forces. Instead you would join with the Russians, Iranians and Assad regime in fighting ISIS. Would that be your policy for Syria? And if the Assad regime, supported by Russian and Iranian military forces, attempted to regain control over all of Syria, would you stand aside and let that happen?”

## HOT ON THE LEFT

## HOT ON THE RIGHT

**Two little known but influential Democratic operatives lost their jobs after edited footage from a video sting by conservative activist James O’Keefe found them entertaining “dark notions” about how to win elections. From Dave Weigel: “Footage from the video shows [Scott] Foval, a Wisconsin-based politico with a long resume, bragging about a litany of political dirty tricks. In the first video, he boasts of ‘conflict engagement in the lines of Trump rallies,’ takes credit for the violence that canceled a Trump rally at the University of Illinois in Chicago (and) **admits****

**he's paid 'mentally ill' people to start trouble."**

Robert Creamer also announced he is stepping down from the work he was doing for a progressive consulting group following release of the tape. On Tuesday night's episode of "Hannity," two campaign representatives said that the tapes "validated everything" Trump had said about the possible threat of the election being stolen.

#### **DAYBOOK:**

**On the campaign trail:** Trump and Clinton debate in Las Vegas. Tim Kaine speaks in Upper Arlington and Springfield, Ohio and Asheville, N.C.; Bernie Sanders rallies Clinton supporters in Reno, Nev. Pence speaks in Durango, Colo.

**At the White House:** Obama has no public events scheduled. Biden speaks about the Cancer Moonshot at the SAP Global CEO Summit in New York. Later, he travels to Boston to speak again about the project at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute.

**On Capitol Hill:** The Senate and House are out.

#### **QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

Obama mocked Trump for griping about a rigged election: "You start whining before the game's even over?"



## NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:

-- “A solidly summerlike day, with partly to mostly sunny skies and noticeable humidity,” the [Capital Weather Gang forecasts](#).

“Highs head for the mid-80s, with light winds from the west-southwest around 5-10 mph. The record highs to beat for the day? — 88 at DCA, 83 at Dulles, and 82 at BWI.”

-- The Wizards [beat the Cleveland Cavaliers](#) 96-91.

-- The [Capitals beat the Colorado Avalanche](#) 3-0

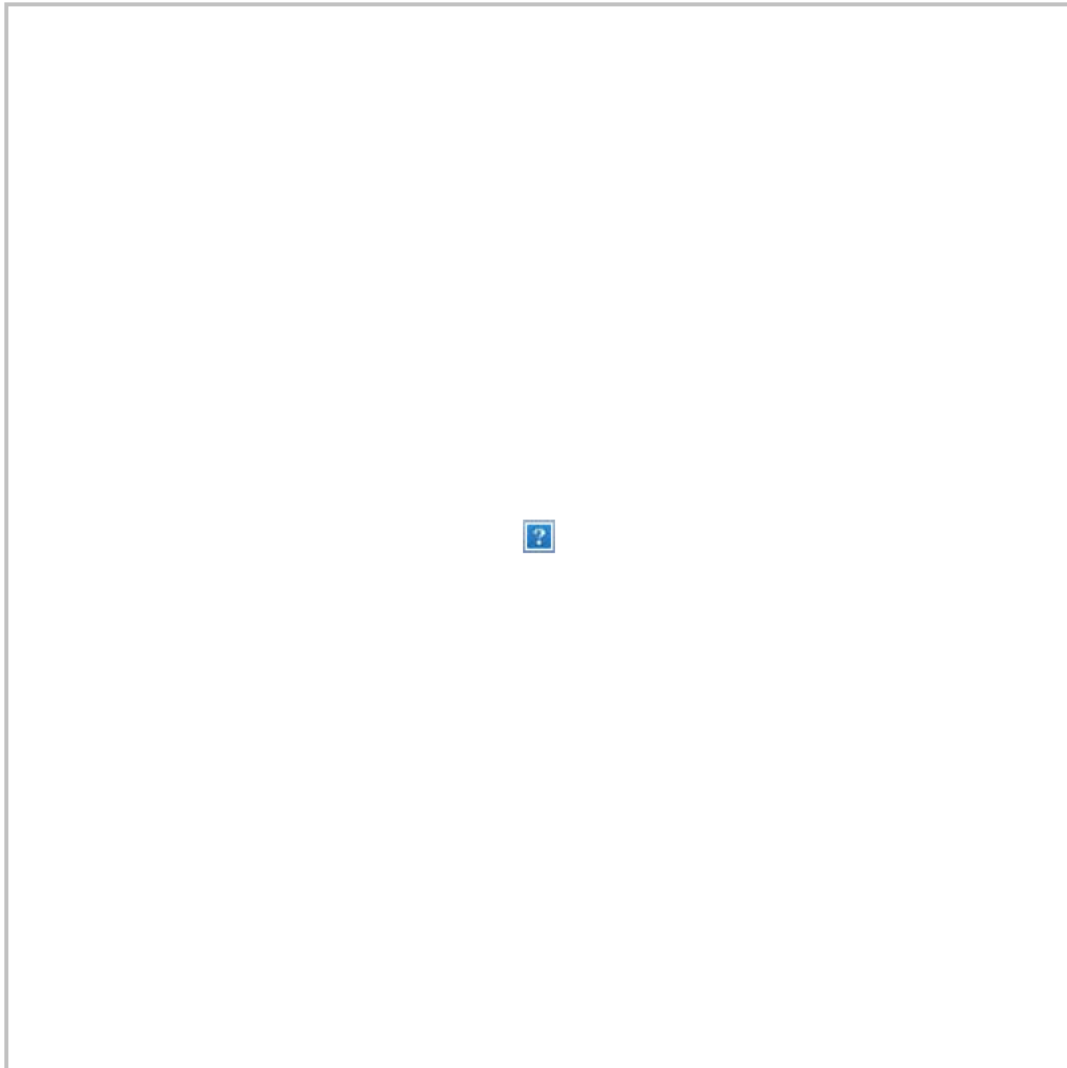
-- A Richmond federal appeals court agreed to postpone oral arguments in a case over the Washington Redskins’ trademark registration, further delaying a long-running case that pits the NFL team against the U.S. patent office and Native Americans groups find the team’s name insulting. ([Ian Shapira](#))

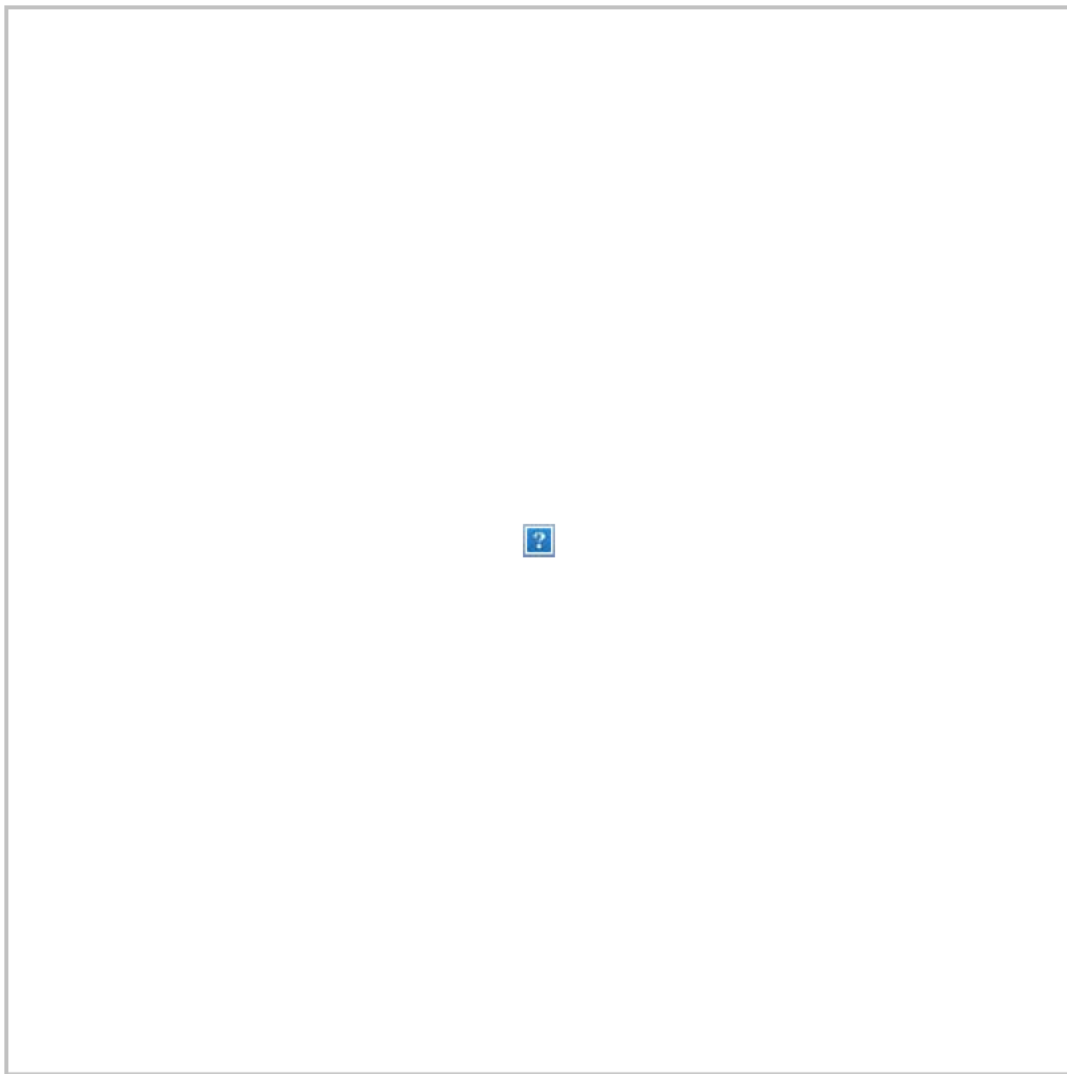
-- A high school senior was fatally stabbed on a D.C. Metrobus Tuesday evening, reportedly following a long-running dispute with another young woman over a cell phone. Police said the suspect has been taken into custody and charged. ([Peter Hermann](#))

-- Marriott International announced plans to relocate its headquarters to downtown Bethesda, deciding to remain in Montgomery County after getting commitment on a \$62 million publicly funded initiative. ([Jonathan O'Connell](#))

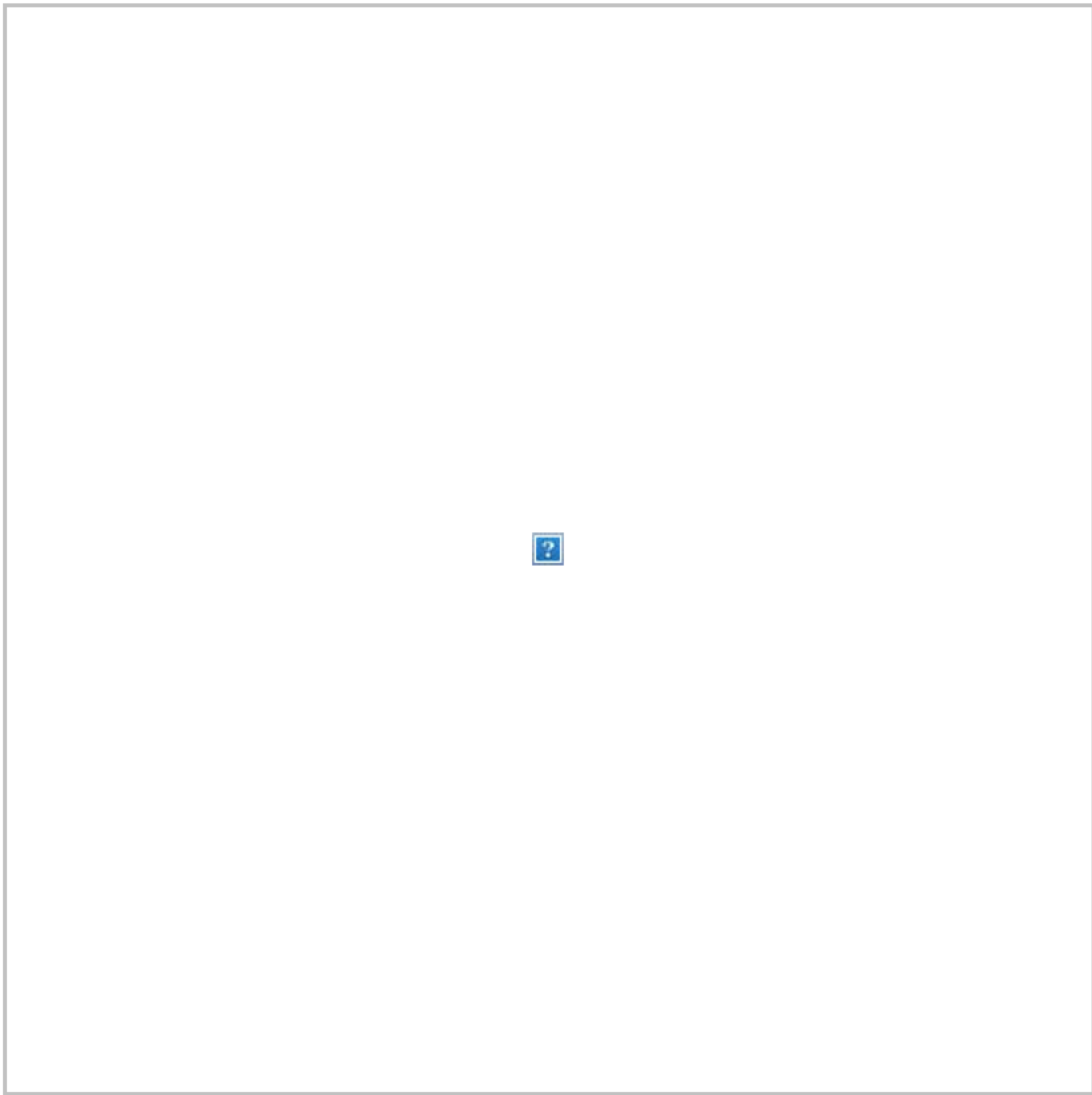
## VIDEOS OF THE DAY:

Tony Award-winning actress Laura Benanti [returned to “The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” last night](#) to reprise her [spot-on parody](#) of Melania Trump — this time with some uncomfortable Billy Bush references:



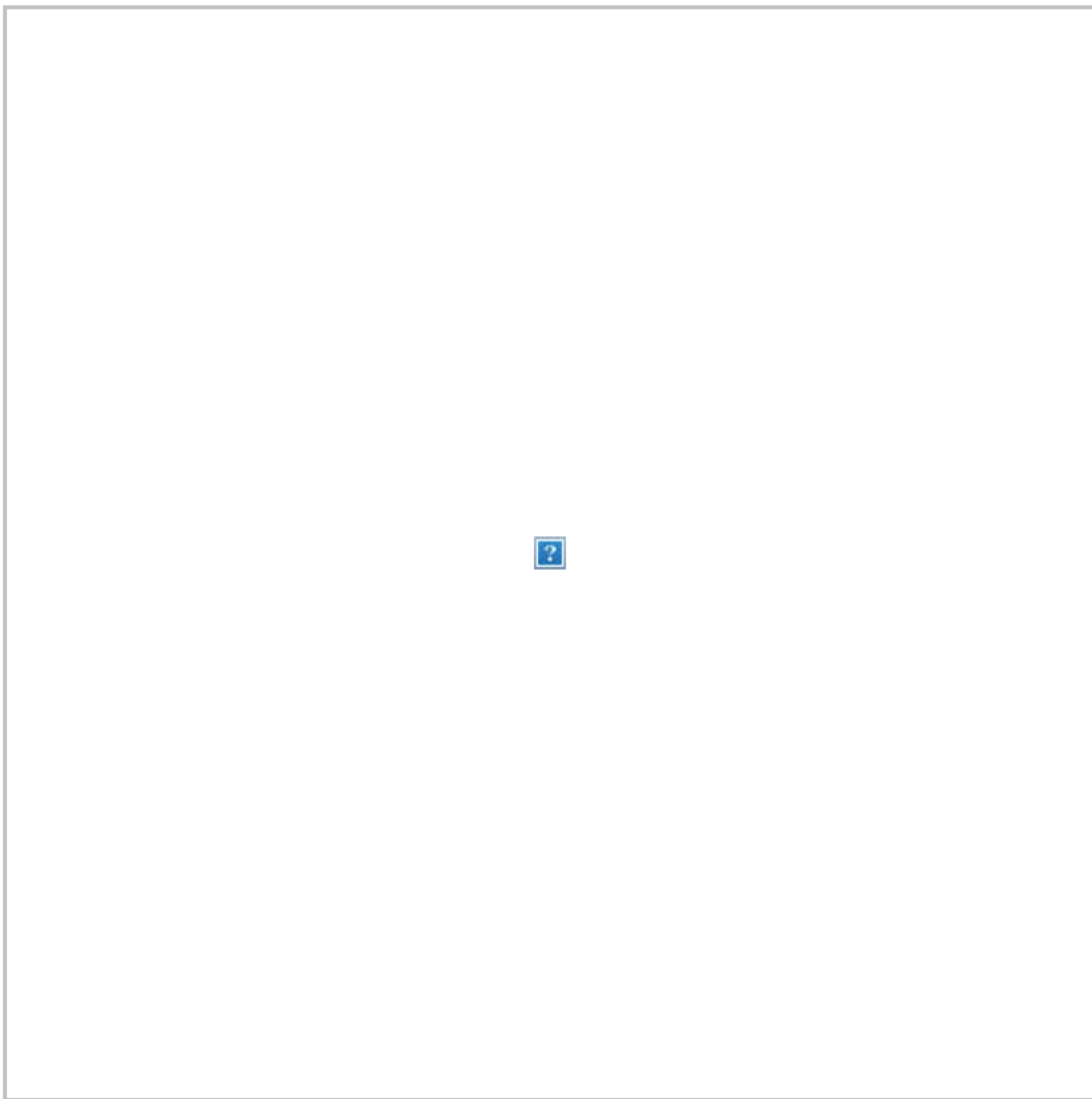


Watch as celebrities arrive at the White House for the Italian state dinner:



Celebrities arrive for Italian state dinner

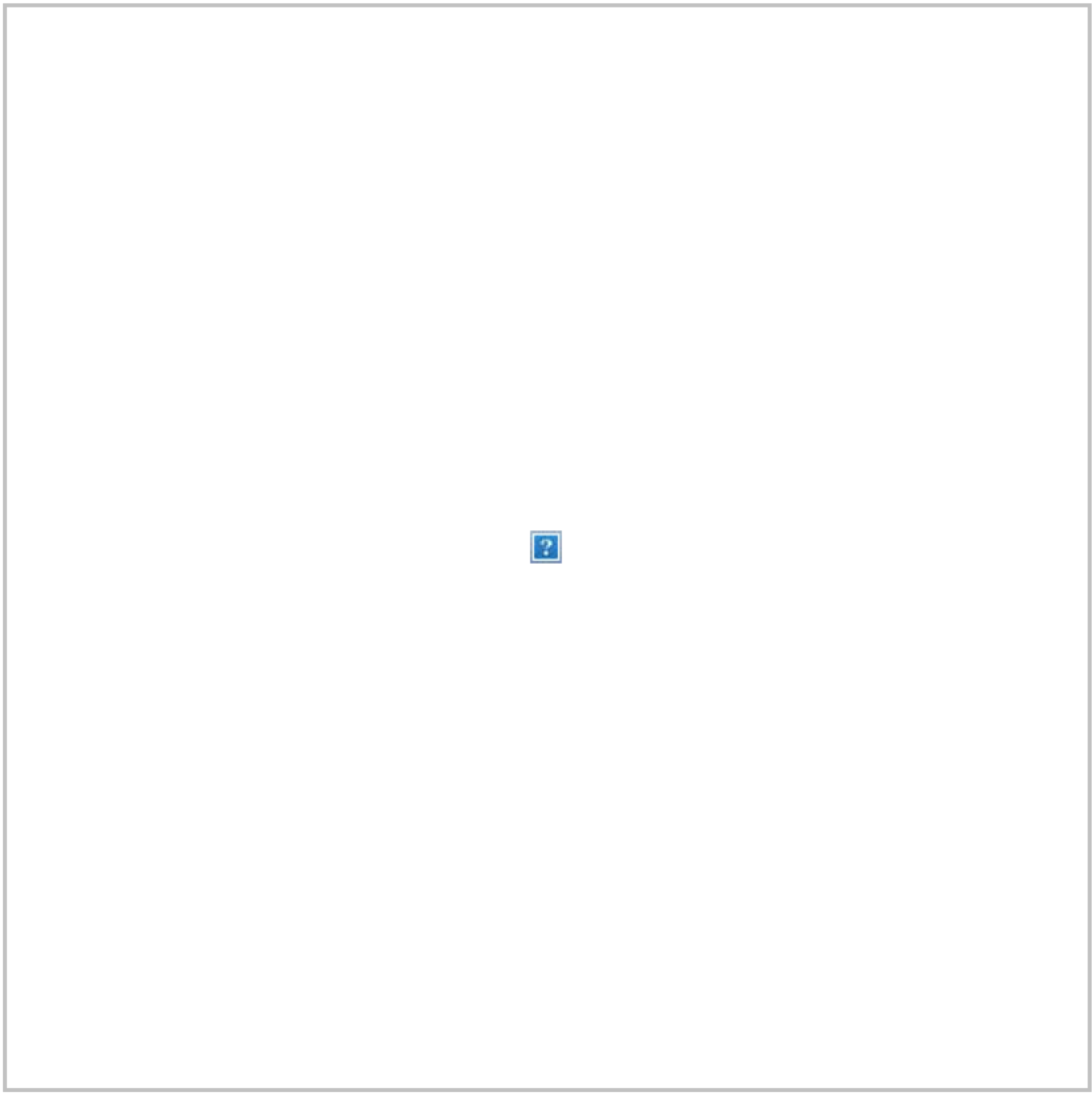
"Dreamer" Juan Salazar, who came to the U.S. when he was seven, contemplates what's at stake in this election for him and his undocumented family members:



A family in fear: 'Us being separated...is just devastating'

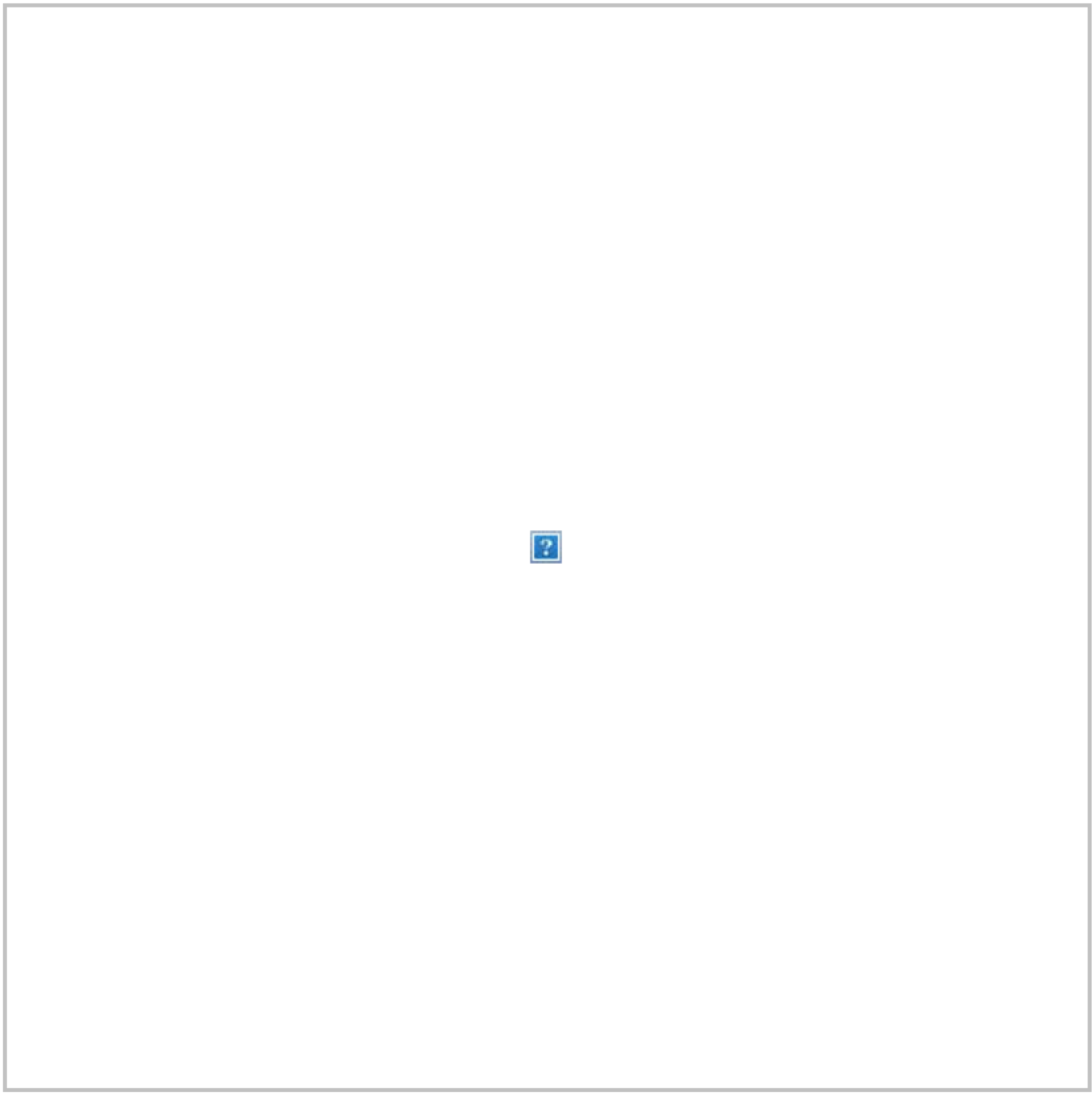
Judy Shepard, whose son Matthew Shepard was murdered in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1998, because he was gay, cut a 1-minute spot for the Clinton Super PAC Priorities USA. "I know what can happen as the result of hate," she says to camera. "So when I see the hate that Donald Trump has brought to his campaign for president, it terrifies me. ... Words have an influence, violence causes pain, hate can rip us apart. I know what can happen as the result of hate, and Donald Trump should never be our president."





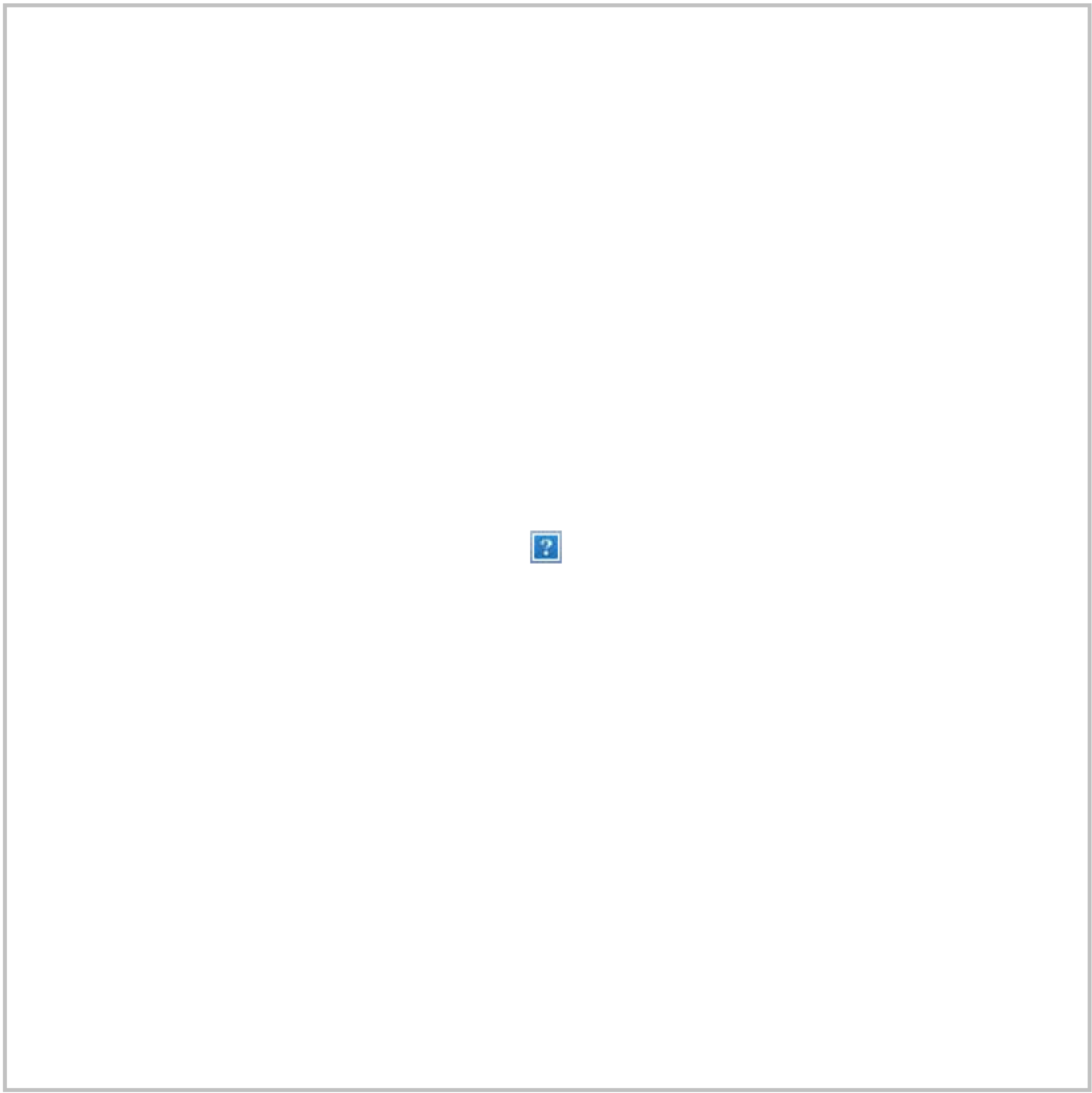
Hate

Bloomberg made an Ocean's Eleven-style explainer about whether the election is rigged:



Ocean's Election: Rigging the System, Vegas-Style

Kathy Griffin taped a video against Trump (warning: profanity):

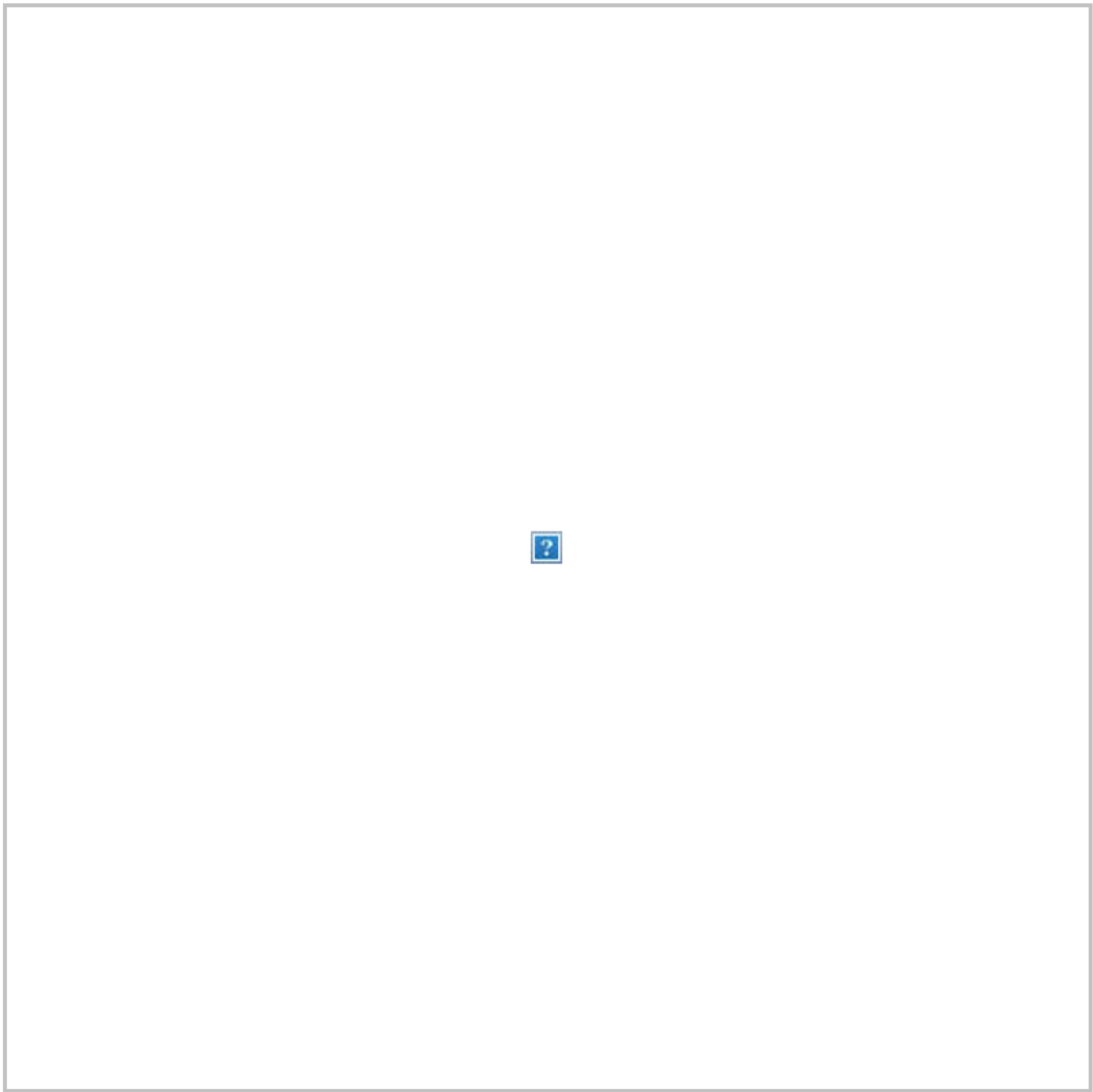


Mirrors | Kathy Griffin | Hillary Clinton

Viceland also used adult language in this Instagram video against Trump:

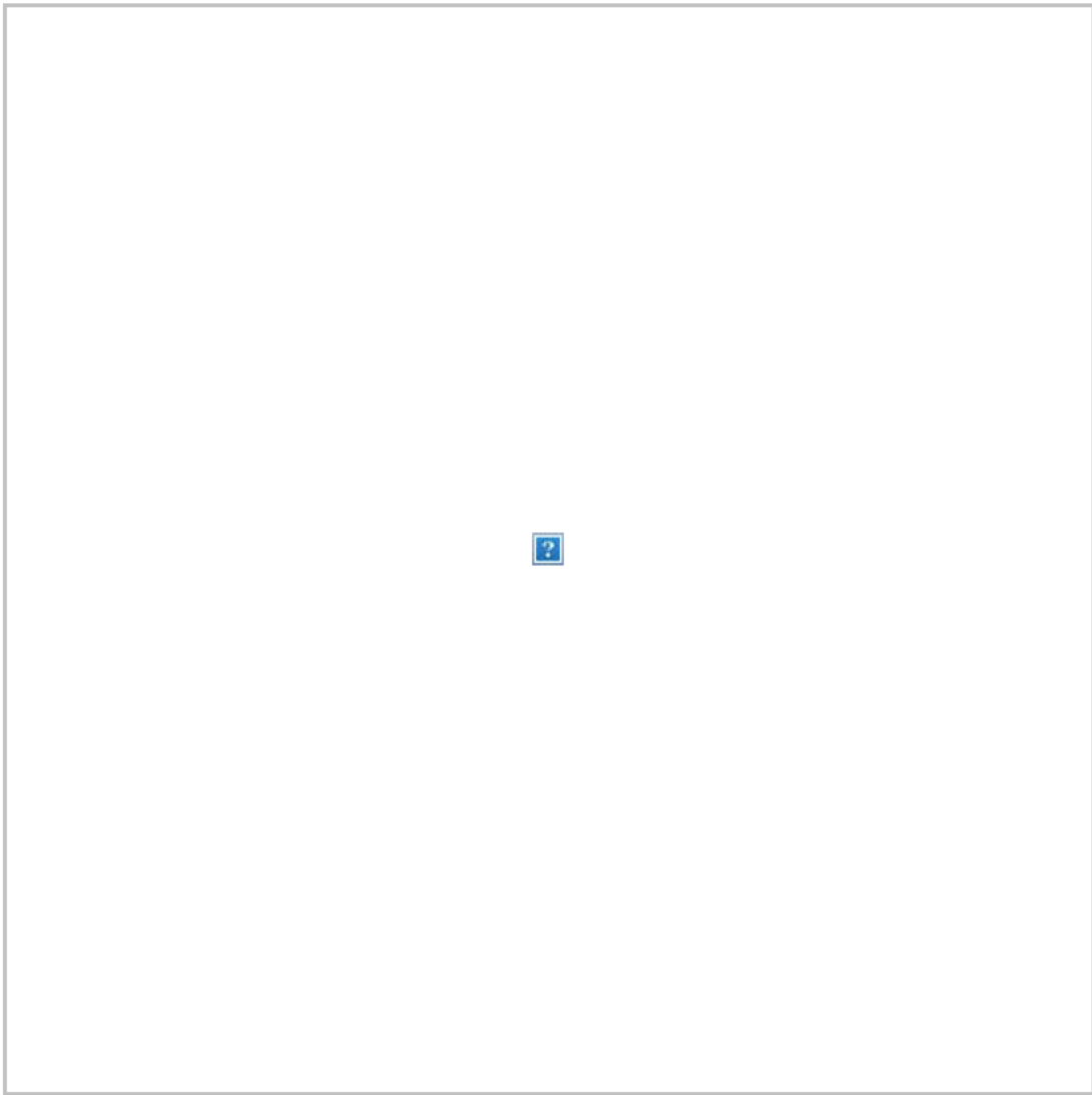


Compare some of what Clinton says in her stump speech to what she told Goldman Sachs bankers behind closed doors:



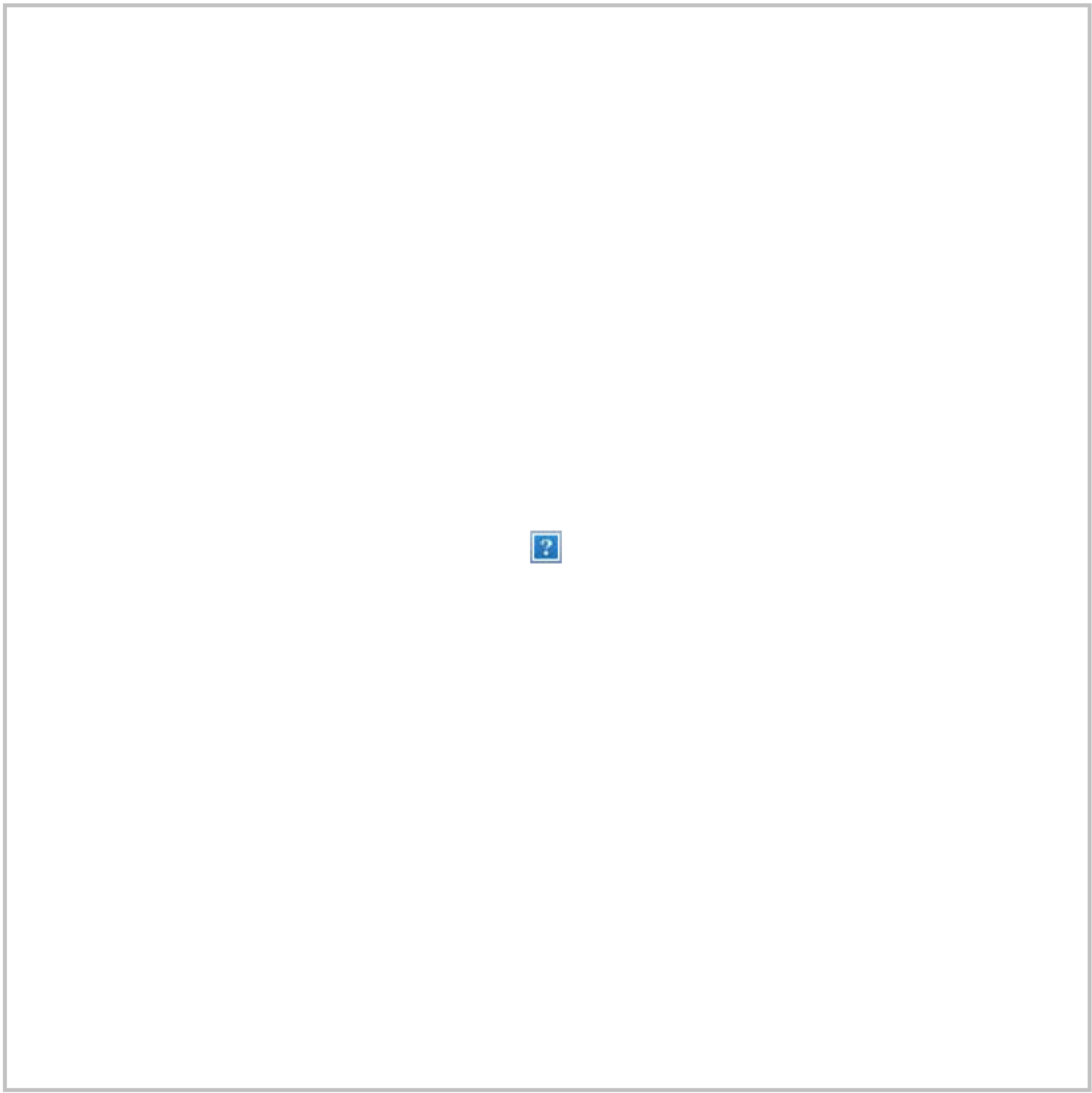
How some of Clinton's private speeches compare to her public stances

Watch Obama speak about Trump's "whining":



President Obama: "I'd invite Mr. Trump to stop whining..." (C-SPAN)

Finally, in this video, Canadians tell Americans why our country is already great:



Canadians 'tell America it's great'

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**To:** (b)(6):(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** The Daily 202: The Supreme Court will be a focus of tonight's presidential debate  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 10:00:25 AM

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# The Daily 202



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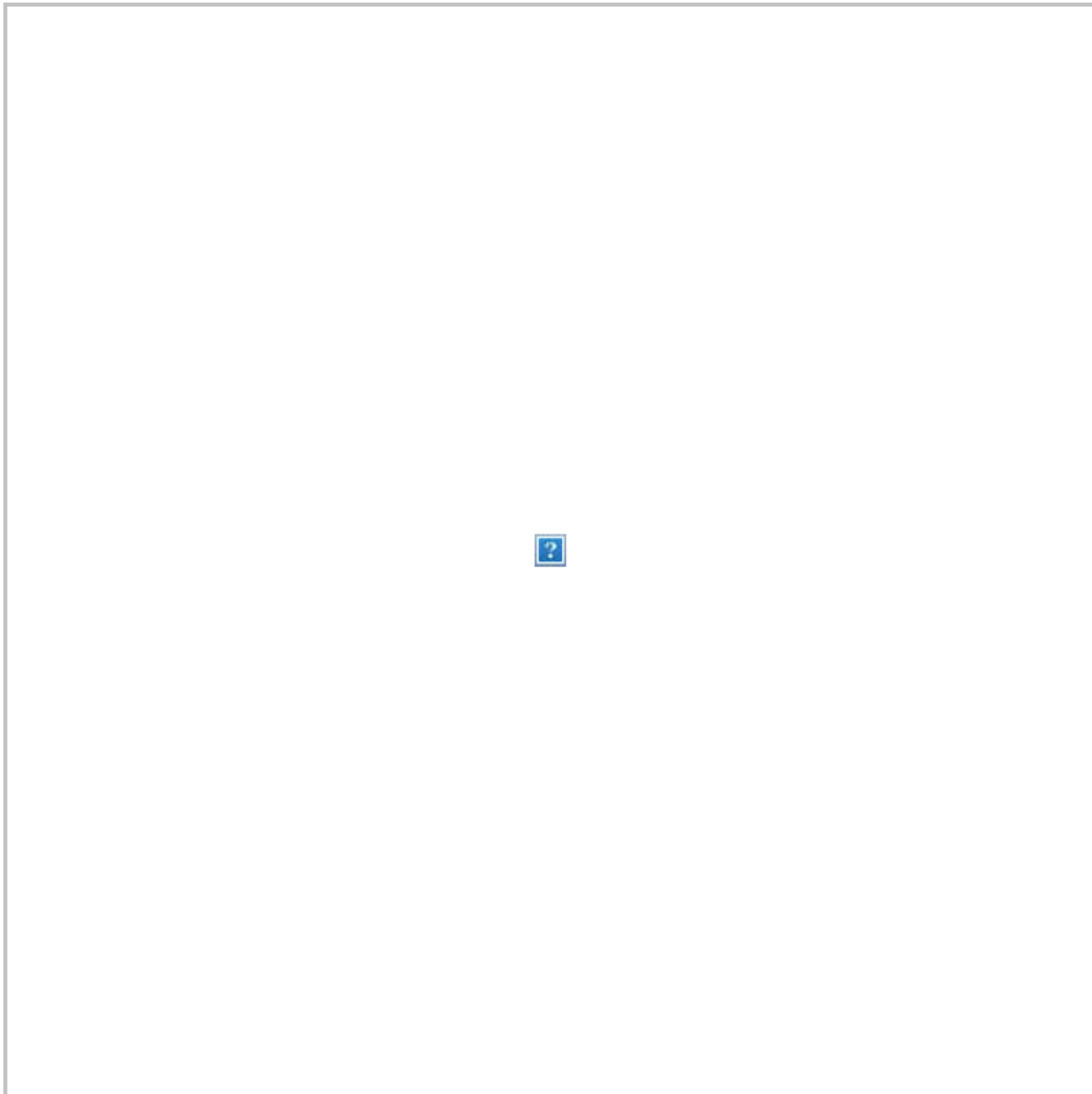
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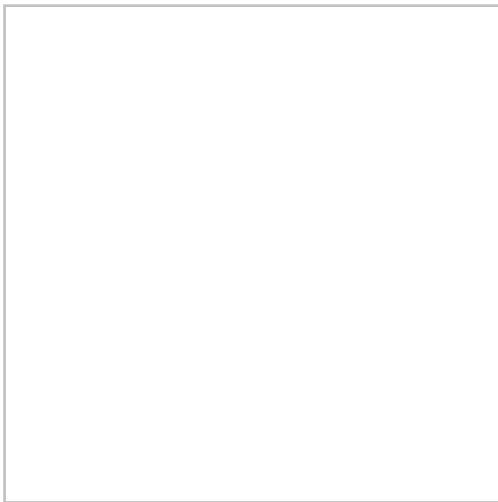
**The Supreme Court will be a focus of tonight's**



## presidential debate



Donald Trump's plane passes Hillary Clinton's plane at McCarran International Airport yesterday. The candidates have come to Las Vegas for their third and final debate. (Brendan Smialowski/AFP/Getty Images)



*With Breanne Deppisch*

**THE BIG IDEA: The Supreme Court is one of six main topics that will be covered during tonight's final debate at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas.** The late Antonin Scalia's seat continues to sit empty. An evenly-divided court has begun its new term under a cloud of uncertainty. Assuming Hillary Clinton wins, it remains [unclear](#) whether Republicans will try to confirm Merrick Garland during the lame-duck session to prevent her from putting up someone who is younger and more liberal next year.

**The debate took on new significance this week when John McCain [boasted](#) during a radio interview that Republicans would automatically oppose whomever Clinton nominates.** "I promise you that we will be united against any Supreme Court nominee that Hillary Clinton, if she were president, would put up," the Arizona senator said. "I promise you!"

Attacked by his Democratic challenger, McCain's spokeswoman released a statement walking back his comment. The senator will "thoroughly examine the record of any Supreme Court nominee put

before the Senate,” she said. McCain then [awkwardly avoided](#) a local TV reporter who tried to follow up.

**Republicans, who have struggled to convince voters that they are capable of governing, talked a big game in years past about the need to be more than just “the party of no.” That messaging is gone now. The prospect of four more years in the wilderness suggests that they will move back toward unapologetic obstruction.**

Right now, however, they are in damage control mode. **Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, who is up for reelection in Iowa, promised yesterday to not automatically “stonewall” any Clinton pick.** “If that new president happens to be Hillary, we can’t just simply stonewall,” Grassley said on [a conference call with local press](#).

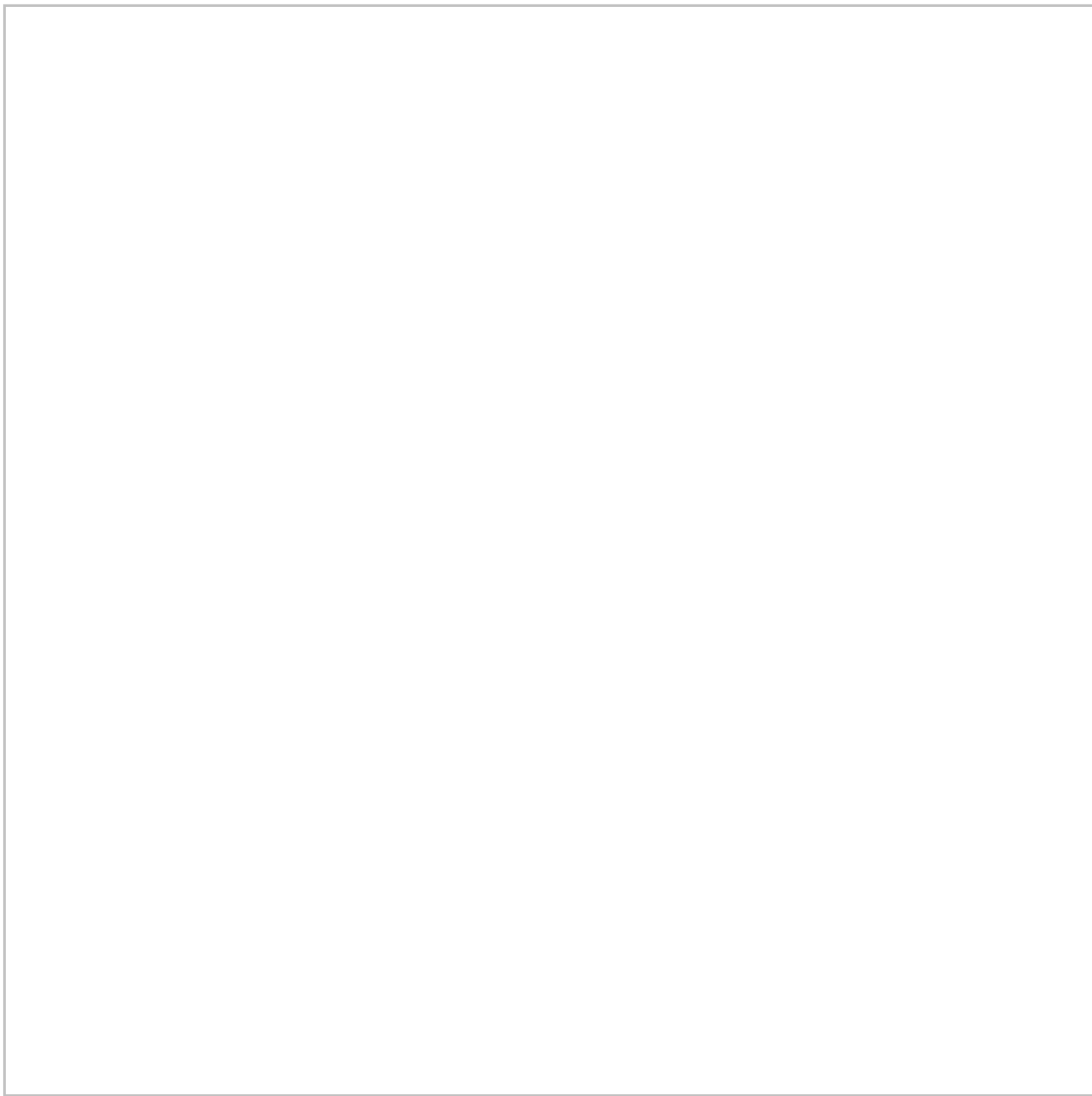
This is a very delicate balancing act. Vulnerable Republican incumbents are trying to convince people who are reluctantly voting for Clinton to support them by promising that they’ll be a check and balance on the excesses of the Clinton presidency. **One man’s “check and balance,” however, is another man’s “obstruction.” Regardless of how you play it, the bottom line is that Republicans are trying to save their majority by promising more gridlock.**

If Republicans hold the Senate, Mitch McConnell will control the floor schedule and Grassley will continue to have the Judiciary gavel. So [they technically could](#) do exactly what they have for the past nine months with Garland.

**Democrats are now favored to win the Senate majority. Even if they run the table, however, they'll only control around 53 seats.**

That is nowhere near filibuster proof. The question then becomes: Which Republicans would cross over to vote for a President Clinton's SCOTUS picks? Could a Majority Leader Chuck Schumer cobble together 60 votes? Or does he invoke the nuclear option and change the rules to allow Supreme Court nominees to be confirmed by a simple majority? **Going nuclear will probably be the easier course, both politically and procedurally**, especially because the Republican blockade of Garland has cost GOP leaders much of their moral standing to oppose such a gambit.

**Contrary to the will of the brilliant men who devised the Constitution, the Senate is increasingly becoming a majoritarian institution. Conservatives, who in principle should be alarmed by this trend, have shortsightedly accelerated it.**



A student standing in for Hillary is captured on the large monitor during a rehearsal for the debate last night at UNLV. (David Goldman/AP)

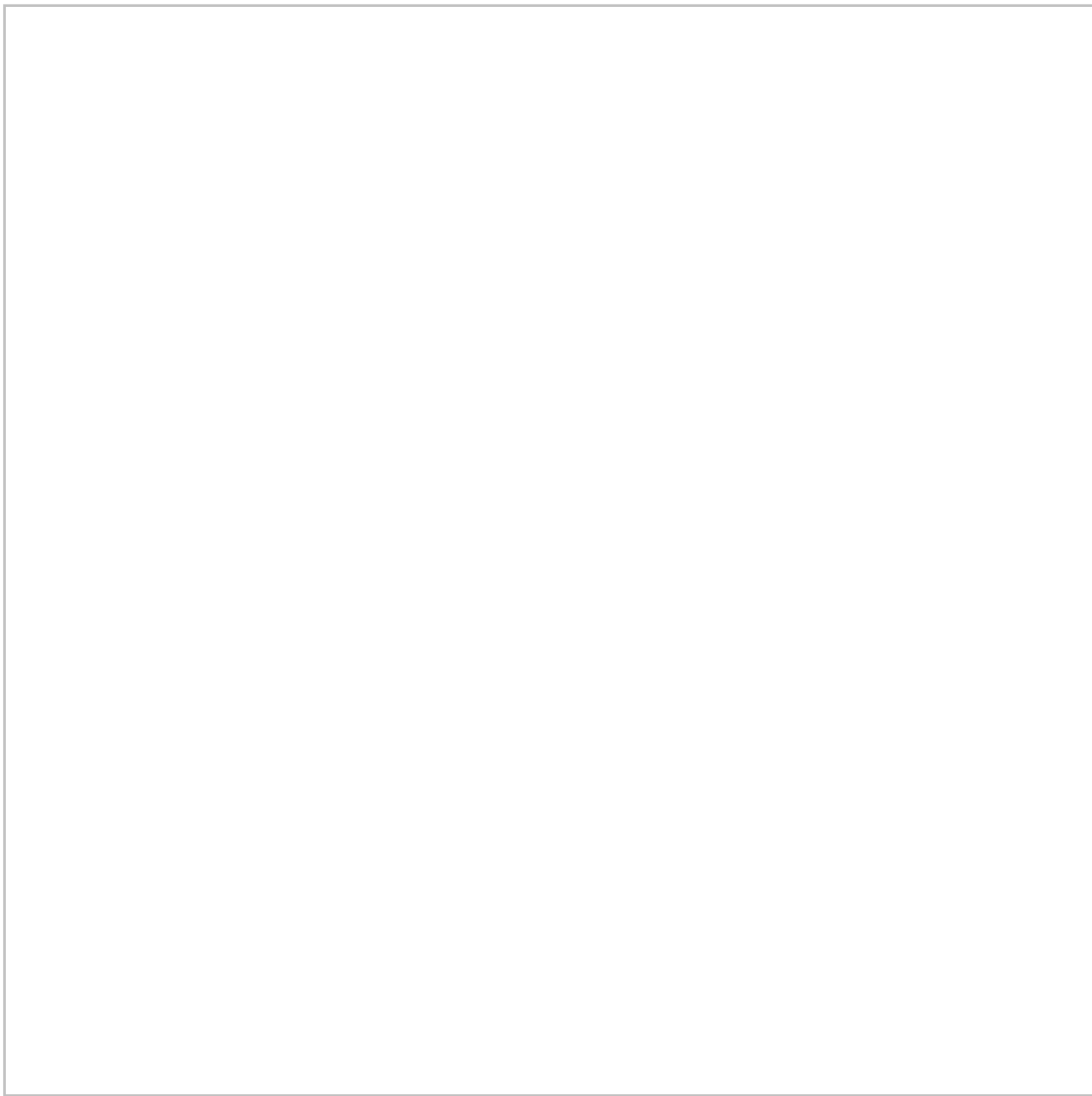
**-- There are two very important SCOTUS questions that the candidates have avoided giving direct answers to:**

**Will Clinton re-nominate Garland?** Watch for her to once again dodge on this. She's called him "extremely well qualified," and she's relying heavily on Barack Obama to get her across the finish line in November. The president sees getting Garland through during the lame-duck as a top priority and a legacy achievement, but Clinton privately wants to pick someone who is younger and more liberal than

the 63-year-old moderate.

**Will Trump commit to nominating only people who are on his list of 21 potential picks?**

Aides have said the list is definitive, but the reality TV star has suggested during interviews that he might go another direction. And he has a very long history of not being true to his word. A few of the people Trump floated have chastised him. Utah Sen. Mike Lee, on the second installment of Trump's list, subsequently called on the GOP nominee to drop out. And, amusingly, federal appellate court Judge Diane Sykes (who was in the first batch of names released by Trump) ruled earlier this month [against](#) Mike Pence. She said the Indiana governor cannot interfere with the distribution of federal funds to resettle Syrian refugees in his state.



Trump speaks in Grand Junction, Colorado. (George Frey/Getty)

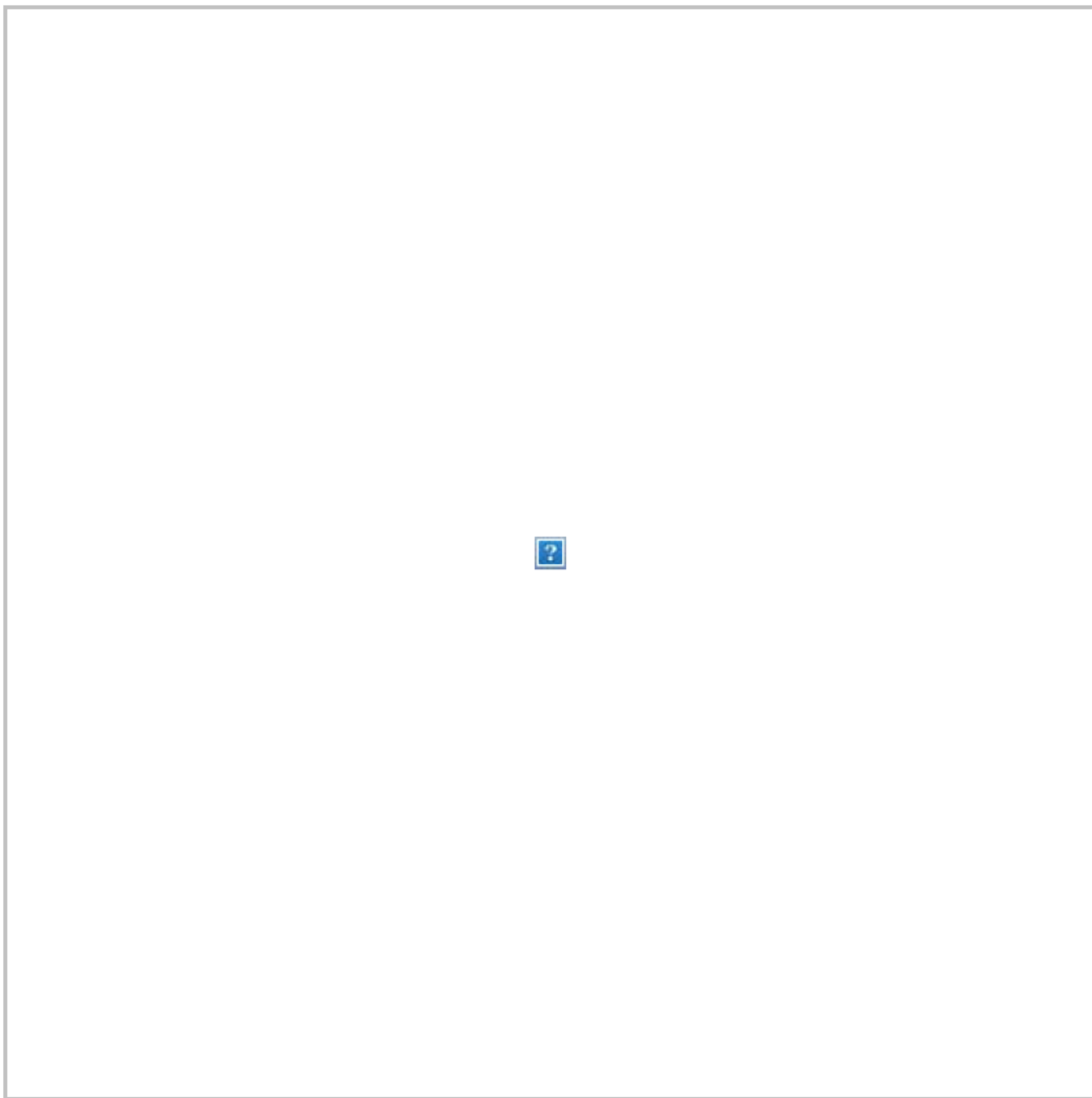
**-- For many conservative intellectuals, stopping Clinton from appointing Scalia's replacement is no longer a good enough reason to support Trump.** Among the Republican politicians who have capitulated, such as Ted Cruz, holding the Scalia seat is a favorite talking point to justify supporting someone who they privately see as dangerously authoritarian. But 29 top conservative legal scholars have signed onto a letter arguing that it is not enough. The "Originalists against Trump" do not believe Trump would protect the Constitution. And they do not trust him to actually pick from his list of

21. “More importantly, we do not trust him to respect constitutional limits in the rest of his conduct in office, of which judicial nominations are only one part,” they write. The group understands that the alternative is Clinton. “Yet our country’s commitment to its Constitution is not so fragile that it can be undone by a single administration or a single court,” they conclude. ([Read the full letter here.](#))

Our [Robert Barnes notes](#) that the signatories include a Northwestern law professor who was one of the founders of the Federalist Society, Steven G. Calabresi; Post columnist George F. Will; and a well-regarded conservative law professor at New York University and the University of Chicago, Richard Epstein. **“The effort was organized by Duke University law professor Stephen E. Sachs and University of Chicago law professor William Baude, a pair of former clerks to Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.”**

**Something to ponder: Will Roberts vote for Trump?** He obviously wants to regain his working majority, but he also hails from Indiana – just like Gonzalo Curiel, the federal judge whom Trump leveled repeated, racially-loaded attacks against. We’ll never know...





Bill greets Melania before the start of the last debate. (Paul J. Richards/AFP/Getty Images)

### **MORE ON WHAT TO EXPECT IN VEGAS TONIGHT:**

-- The other five topics that will get covered from 9 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Eastern are immigration, entitlements/debt, the economy, foreign policy and each candidate's “fitness” to serve as president.

-- Trump's scorched-earth strategy continues. He is bringing as his guests Obama’s estranged half-brother Malik and the mother

**of a Benghazi victim who has accused Clinton of “murdering” her son.** It is unclear whether the campaign will reveal more surprise guests today. Clinton is bringing billionaires Mark Cuban and Meg Whitman in an effort to [rattle Trump over his wealth](#). ([Jose DelReal](#))

**-- Clinton spent much of this week off the trail preparing for their final showdown, a strategy which Trump mocked at a Colorado rally.** He told supporters she was actually at home resting instead. "You know what the debate prep is? It's resting. It's lying down, going to sleep," he said. ([Jenna Johnson](#))

**-- The Clinton campaign has requested that Bill and Melania do not shake hands before tonight's debate.** Last time, Trump planned to parade three women who accused Clinton of sexual assault into the family seating area and force the former president to shake their hands as he crossed the room. ([Jeremy Peters and Maggie Haberman](#), The New York Times)



Chris Wallace moderated the first Republican primary debate in Aug. 2015 in Cleveland. (Aaron Josefczyk/Reuters)

-- **“Chris Wallace’s Debate Role Is a Bright Spot in a Dark Year for Fox,”** by the New York Times’s Michael Grynbaum: Chris is the first Fox journalist to take charge of a general election face-off. “It would be the most consequential night of Fox News’s year — if the network had not just endured the most traumatic period in its two-decade history. [For] the team of Fox anchors and producers (in Vegas) this week, Mr. Wallace’s star turn is a welcome source of pride. And, maybe, some relief. The selection of Mr. Wallace, a veteran broadcaster with a reputation for tough, mischief-making

questions, was particularly bolstering for Fox's news division, which has viewed itself as an unfairly maligned alternative to the network's stable of conservative commentators like Mr. Hannity and Bill O'Reilly."

**-- Politico's Glenn Thrush preemptively declares that "[Clinton will be on the defensive](#)":** "Trump's fitness to lead has, rightly, been the major focus of his conventionally lousy first debate and the national disgrace of his second one. But here's some good news for him! Trump has done such a masterful job of handing Clinton the election that the inevitable focus now is on her! America wants, demands, that final kick-the-tires test, as Barack Obama said of the process – and significant questions remain about her honesty, integrity, judgment and trustworthiness. ... Beatings, like bossa novas, have a predictable rhythm. **Trump's beating (however deserved or self-inflicted) has gone on for too long in terms of the cyclical attention span of modern media, and it's simply Hillary's turn.**"

**-- Trump's odds of turning around his campaign tonight are steep, the [Boston Globe's Matt Viser](#) posits:** "Clinton arrives in Las Vegas for the final debate like a poker player holding a full house, confident and careful. Trump is furiously raising his bet, acting as if he's holding a hot hand, when polls say all he's got is a pair of jacks."

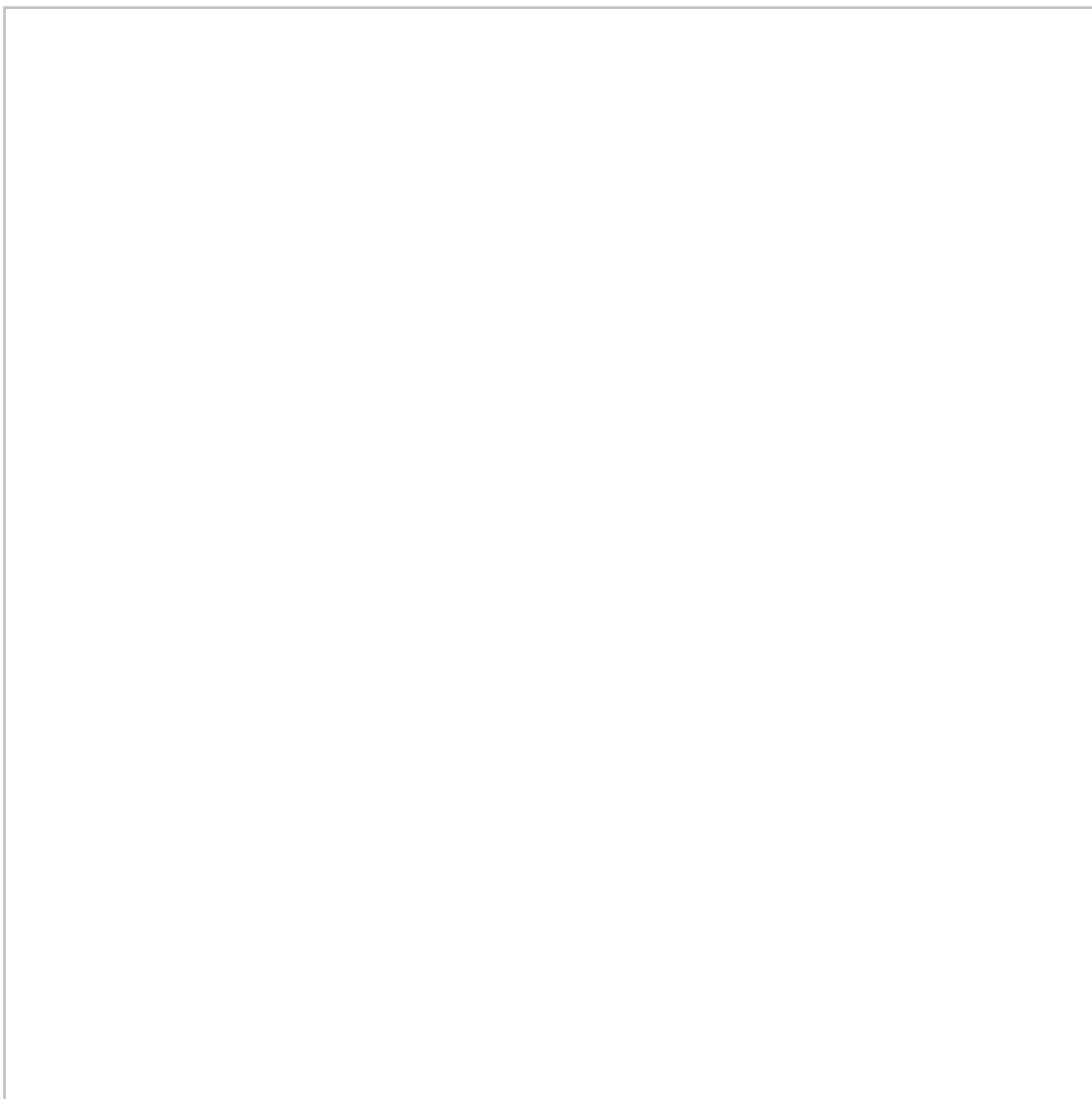
**-- Republicans are praying that Trump does not once again take Clinton's bait, per the Wall Street Journal's [Michael Bender and Laura Meckler](#):** "Democrats want Clinton to articulate a positive vision for the country, rising above the allegations of sexual misconduct and dishonesty that have permeated this election year. ...

Republicans say Trump needs to focus on his popular anti-establishment message and avoid placing any more attention on controversies over his treatment of women or rifts with fellow Republicans. 'For once he needs to make this a race that's not just about him,' said GOP consultant and former Romney adviser Kevin Madden. 'Clinton wants this race to be a referendum on Trump and his lack of temperament, and every time she lays the bait he never disappoints in taking it.'"

Welcome to the Daily 202, **PowerPost's** morning newsletter.  
With contributions from Elise Viebeck ([@eliseviebeck](#)).

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**WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING:**



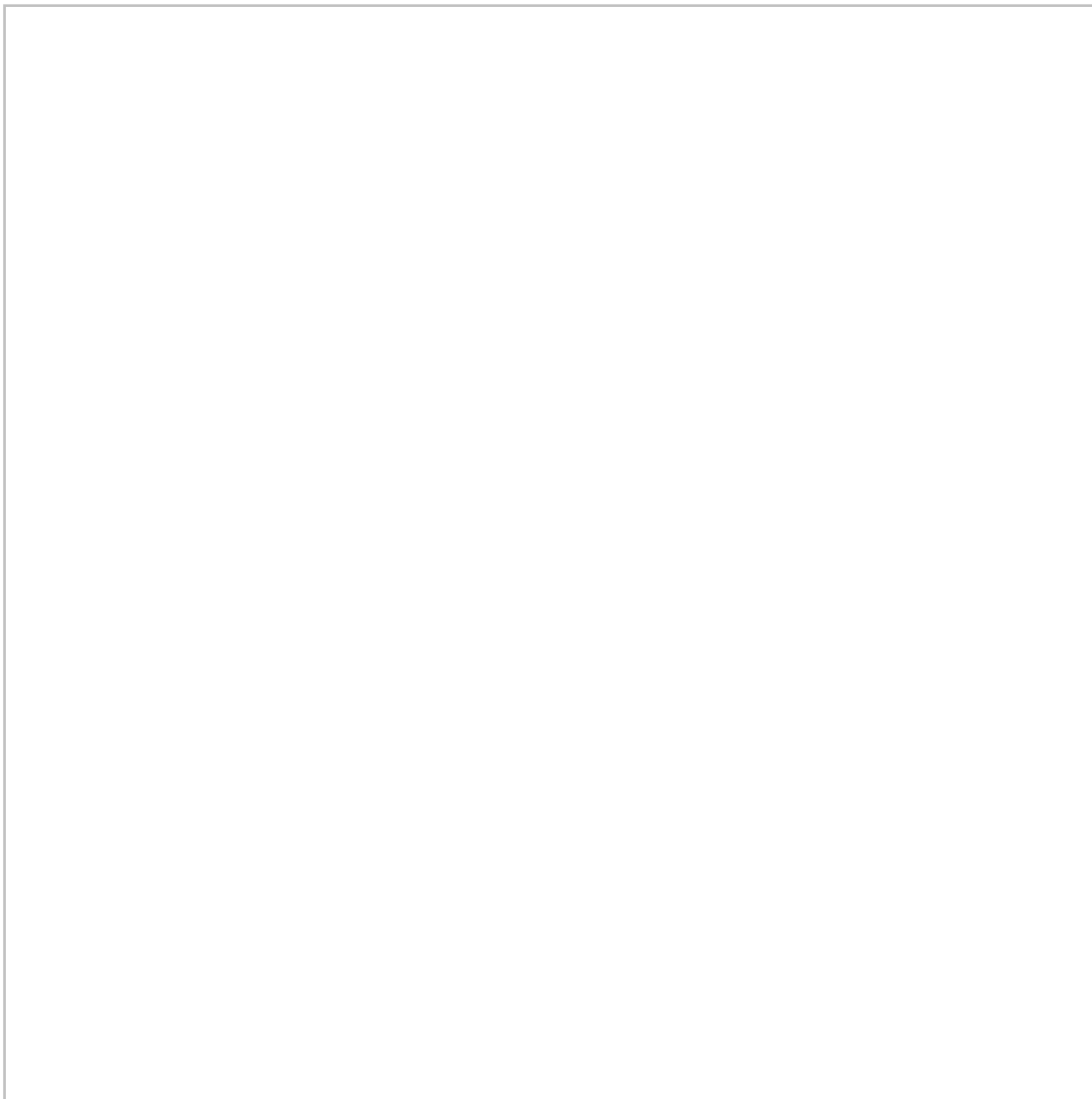
President Obama greets Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi at the White House.  
(EPA/Michael Reynolds)

**-- President Obama hosted his final state dinner, honoring Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi and his wife at a celebratory -- yet nostalgic -- reception.** “If there was a collective emotion that defined the night it’d be a mix of joy and pain,” [Helena Andrews-Dyer and Emily Heil wrote](#). “Everyone involved in the Obamas’ last black tie gala felt it. From guest chef Mario Batali, who said that knowing this dinner is the last adds its own brand of pride and pressure, to the president himself, who called the swanky swan song ‘a bittersweet moment.’ Held in a tent on the South Lawn dripping with chandeliers

and dotted with mirrored tables to conjure up the Italian 'fresco' technique, the evening featured a stroll through the first lady's kitchen garden ... a four-course meal prepared by Batali and a performance by Gwen Stefani ... But despite the night's obvious symbolism as a denouement the dinner's guests probably took the opening lines of the president's traditional toast to heart: **'In the immortal words of a great Italian American, Yogi Berra, 'It ain't over 'till it's over.'"**

The Obamas rewarded many of their most loyal staffers with seats at the dinner. **Among the 380 guests were the first lady's hair stylist, makeup artist, and personal trainer...**

FLOTUS wore a custom rose-gold chain-mail gown from Atelier Versace. It was a slinky gown with an asymmetrical neckline that slithered like liquid metal down her torso and around her hips. "It was pure Hollywood glamour," [writes Fashion Critic Robin Givhan](#).



The Ecuadorian national flag flies outside their embassy in London today. (Alastair Grant/AP)

**-- Ecuador acknowledged that it “temporarily restricted” the Internet access of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange at its United Kingdom embassy after WikiLeaks posted John Podesta's emails.** A foreign ministry statement said that while it stands by its decision in 2012 to grant Assange asylum, it doesn’t interfere in foreign elections. The ministry didn’t specify the extent of the restrictions on Assange’s cyber access, saying only that the limitations wouldn’t affect WikiLeaks’s ability to carry out its journalistic activities. Do not forget: Assange is hiding out in the



embassy to avoid facing trial for alleged sexual assault. ([Nick Miroff](#))

**-- Marco Rubio urged Trump and the RNC to stop attacking Clinton over hacked emails published by Wikileaks:** "As our intelligence agencies have said, these leaks are an effort by a foreign government to interfere with our electoral process and I will not indulge it," Rubio told [ABC News's Jon Karl in an interview](#). "Further, I want to warn my fellow Republicans who may want to capitalize politically on these leaks: Today it is the Democrats. Tomorrow it could be us."

**-- Speaking of insecure email servers, Trump lives in a glass house.** From Mother Jones' [Joseph Cox](#): "A researcher has found that a number of email servers linked to [Trump's] hotel and others businesses are running horribly out of date software which receive no security patches, and are lacking other precautions for keeping hackers out." A number of mail servers for TrumpOrg.com, a domain registered to The Trump Organization, are using end-of-life software, including the operating system Windows Server 2003 and IIS 6.0. "Running outdated software and operating systems for your publicly facing email infrastructure is problematic, especially when you're a high profile organisation," said security architect Kevin Beaumont. "During an election where cybersecurity is such a big issue, I was a little amazed at what I saw."



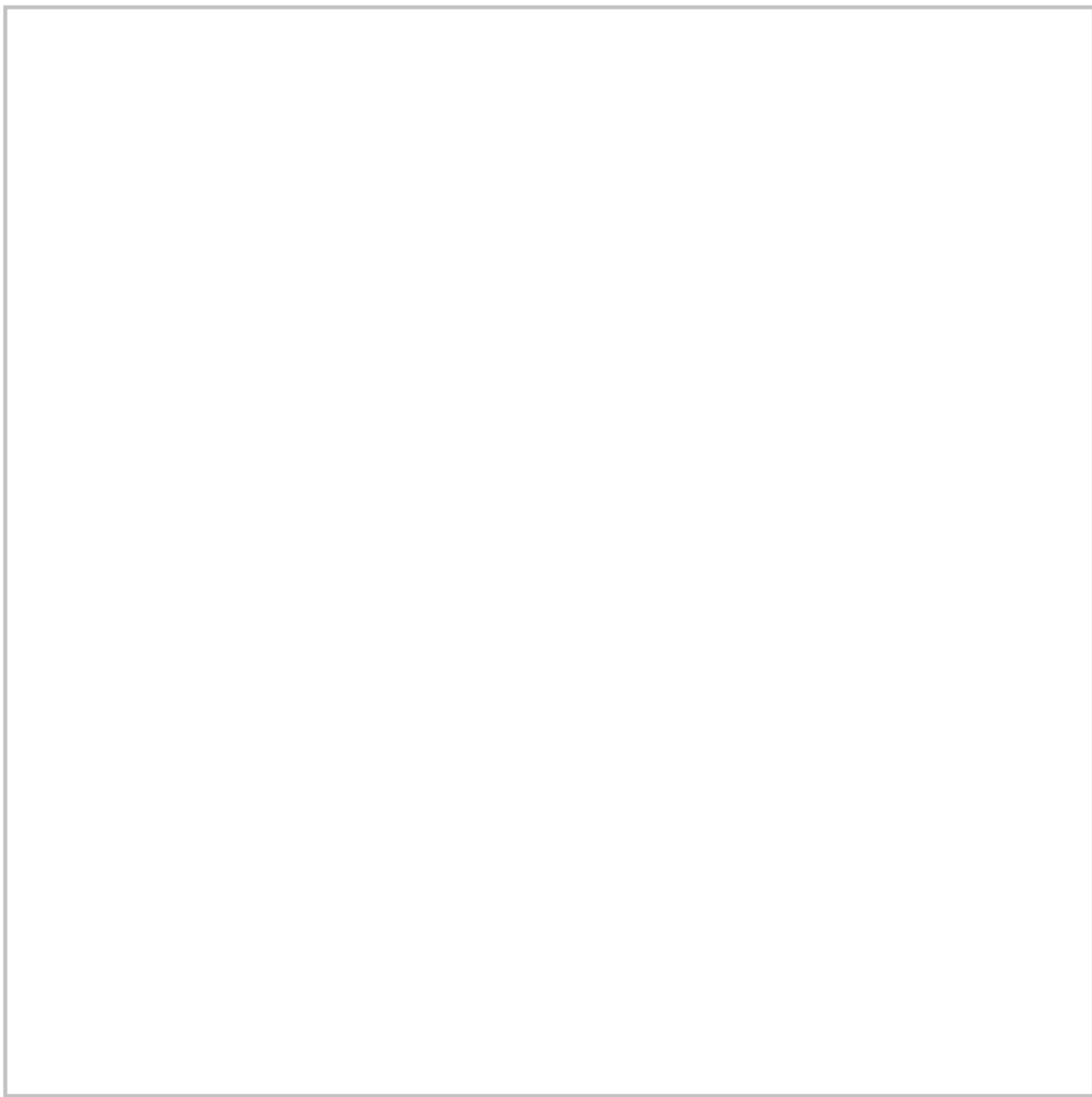
Filipino villagers gather as they prepare for a super typhoon that may hit their village. (EPA)

### GET SMART FAST:

1. **A dangerous super typhoon is spinning like a table saw towards the Philippines, barreling down with Category-5 level winds of 160 mph.** Local emergency managers are warning storm surge could exceed 15 feet when it makes landfall. The storm's arrival comes just days after *another* typhoon struck the country, killing at least two people. ([Angela Fritz](#))

2. **A former Arkansas judge has been arrested and accused of giving lenient sentences to male defendants in exchange for sexual favors – soliciting at least nine men between the ages of 16 and 22 for what he referred to as “community service.”** ([Kristine Guerra](#))
3. **A magistrate judge delivered a victory to a transgender high school student in Illinois, allowing her to continue to use a bathroom and locker room corresponding with her gender identity.** ([Derek Hawkins](#))
4. **More police officers have been killed in the line of duty so far this year than all of last year combined.** But federal statistics also show that being a law enforcement officer has continually gotten safer over the last four decades. Since the 1970s, the death toll for cops decreased by more than half. ([Mark Berman](#))
5. **Warring parties in Yemen agreed to a 72-hour ceasefire.** The U.N. hopes the temporary truce will lead to a “permanent and lasting end” to the conflict. ([AP](#))
6. **A new lawsuit accuses public schools in Flint, Mich., of failing to meet obligations to screen children for lead exposure.** The complaint alleges that the city’s public school system has also failed to provide critical services and interventions to counter the effects of lead exposure. ([Emma Brown](#))
7. **The University of Maryland agreed to hire more staff to address sexual assault on campus, after reports that a faculty shortage was slowing down open investigations. Student government leaders proposed a student fee to help fund the office.** ([Susan Svrluga](#))

- 
8. **Samsung is setting up pop-up phone exchange booths at airports across the country, allowing busy travelers to trade in Galaxy 7 smartphones that were recently banned from all U.S. flights.** But it's unclear what devices the kiosks will offer in replacement – and, as [Hayley Tsukayama](#) notes, a crowded airport is probably not the ideal place to make such a major purchase.
  9. **The Transylvania castle that inspired the “Dracula” novels will be open to two brave souls on Halloween night, thanks to an Airbnb contest.** Winners will spend the night in the 14th century digs, eating by candlelight and sleeping in velvet-lined coffins. ([Cleve R. Wootson Jr.](#))



Members of the Iraqi Special Operations Forces outside Mosul today. (Azad Lashkari/Reuters)

-- A dispatch from the front lines --> [\*\*"Evidence of a 'difficult fight' ahead as forces move toward ISIS-held Mosul,"\*\*](#) by Kareem Fahim and Loveday Morris: "To defend a few miles of unremarkable road in northern Iraq, flanked by farmland, the occasional factory and flyspeck hamlets and villages, the Islamic State militants seemed to spare no effort. They loaded a Volkswagen with explosives and secreted remote-detonated bombs ... They burned tires and dug large tunnels in houses ... The arsenal ultimately failed to protect the militants. But it seemed to slow down the action, tying up a large

contingent of Iraqi soldiers as they tried to clear the road and villages of booby traps, a few wearying feet at a time. There were still 12 grueling miles left to travel before reaching the city's outskirts. The struggle for Mosul ... is the largest and most complex so far in the battle against [ISIS] militants, who have been digging in for a fight. Residents who have recently fled the area ... say the Islamic State has been erecting concrete barricades and filling trenches with oil that can be set on fire to slow advancing forces. 'It's going to be a tough fight and a difficult fight,' Obama said on Tuesday. 'But my expectation is that ultimately it will be successful.'"



Makia Nunes, moments after she became a U.S. citizen yesterday, kisses a cardboard cutout of Hillary. She registered to vote immediately after her Naturalization Ceremony in Los Angeles. (Frederic J. Brown/AFP/Getty Images)

## **THE RACE CONTINUES TO MOVE AWAY FROM TRUMP:**

-- The chairman of a pro-Trump super PAC, Ed Rollins, told [Laura Ingraham](#) that it “would take a miracle at this point” for Trump to win.

-- Pre-spinning the loss, Trump campaign manager Kellyanne Conway says she cannot believe Clinton is not winning by a bigger margin given her numerous built-in advantages: “She has endless money. She’s got a lot of the media. She has a very popular president and first lady campaigning for her,” Conway [told Anderson Cooper](#). “I will tell you, I am mystified as to why she can’t get to those 52, 53 percent numbers in some of these states given the disadvantages we’re handed every day.”

-- Las Vegas bookies now have Clinton as [a six-to-one favorite](#).

-- A Washington Post/Survey Monkey poll of 15 battleground states gives Clinton a “decisive advantage” over Trump in the competition for Electoral College votes. From [Dan Balz and Scott Clement](#): “Based on the results ... along with assumptions of the likely outcomes in other states that have consistently voted for one party or the other, [Clinton] holds leads of four percentage points or more among likely voters in states that add up to 304 electoral votes. Trump, [meanwhile], has the advantage in states with an estimated electoral vote total of 138. Arizona, Florida, Ohio and Texas, which account for 96 electoral votes, remain as toss-ups.”

**Down-ballot Republicans continue to outperform Trump in our survey:** “Democrats need a net gain of five seats to take outright control -- four to exercise control if Clinton becomes president. The results showed Democrats with leads of four or more points in three states with GOP incumbents: New Hampshire, North Carolina and Wisconsin. Republican incumbents lead in Florida and Ohio, in the latter by a wide margin. Meanwhile, races in Nevada, for a seat currently held by Democrats, and Pennsylvania, for a seat now in Republican hands, continue to be close.”

**-- A [Bloomberg Politics poll](#) shows Clinton with a 9 point national lead (50-41). The two tied last month.** Trump is losing support among both men and those without college degrees. “This poll shows movement toward Clinton with all the right groups it takes to win,” said pollster J. Ann Selzer. “Their alignment with Clinton is a formidable change in the algebra.”

**-- An [Arizona Republic/Arizona State University](#) poll shows Clinton AHEAD in ARIZONA by 5 points.** Waning support for the Republican nominee does not appear to have shifted down-ballot, however, with McCain leading by 11 points over Democratic challenger Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick. **Support for the presidential candidates also appears to be somewhat baked into the cake, with two-thirds of voters saying they were not influenced by the previous two debates.** Of respondents who indicated the debate was influential, 16 percent said they were more likely to back Clinton. 9 percent said the same of Trump.

**-- The [University of Houston](#) finds Trump is only ahead by 3 points in Texas (41-38).**



-- [St. Norbert College](#) shows Clinton leading by 8 points in Wisconsin (47-39).

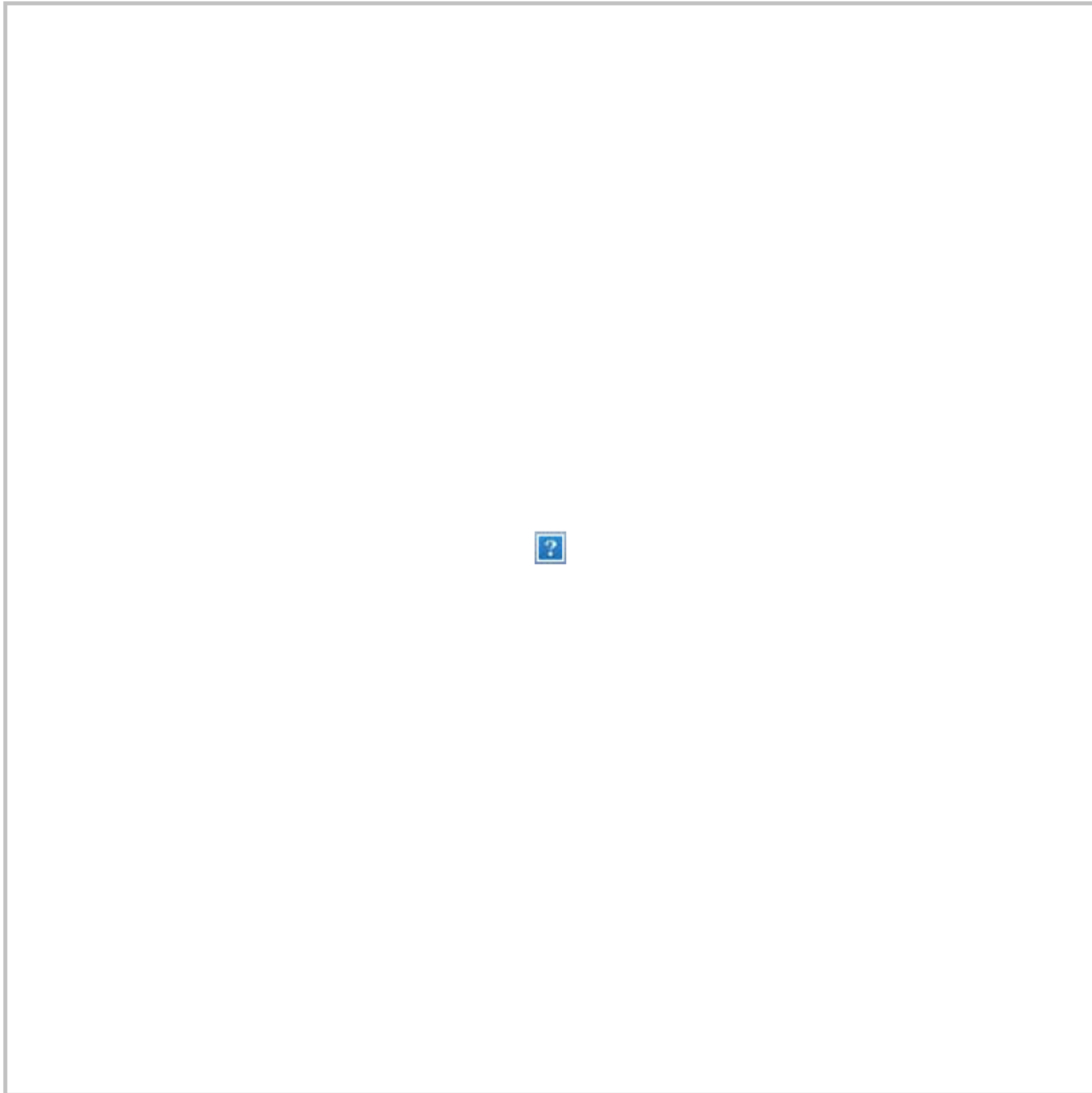
-- [Monmouth University](#) puts Clinton up 7 points in Nevada (47-40). Her surge in the state is largely attributed to younger, non-white voters moving into her column over the past month.

-- A [Fox News national poll](#) shows Clinton up 6 points (45-39).

-- The Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun conducted a poll asking which candidate people thought would be more appropriate as the U.S. president. They found that only 3 percent of Japanese picked Trump, while 73 percent preferred Clinton. The rest had no opinion. The wording is non-traditional, but WaPo pollster Scott Clement checked out the paper's methodology and says it is legit. This will not surprise close poll watchers. [Previous international surveys](#) have found Trump to be exceptionally unpopular.

-- **Fear of an imminent terrorist attack is one of the top concerns of people across the globe**, with most expecting extremist groups will acquire weapons of mass destruction, according to a new poll conducted in eight countries. From [Carol Morello](#): "The [survey, commissioned by the Center for Strategic and International Studies](#) (CSIS), showed that many people think their governments are not doing enough to combat violent extremism. And a majority in every country polled, including the United States, overwhelmingly approved all 21 options presented to them — among them, requiring identification cards for citizens and visitors; rigorous screening of immigrants; bans on incendiary religious speech; and monitoring of

phone calls, emails and social media."



Clinton takes a selfie with the crowd at a voter registration rally at Wayne State University in Detroit. (Reuters/Lucy Nicholson)

## **THE DAILY HILLARY:**

**-- Former FBI agent Brian McCauley pushed back on allegations of a "quid pro quo." He confirmed that he spoke to a top State Department official about changing the classified status of one of Clinton's emails, as well as a long-standing FBI request for additional staffing in U.S. embassies, but he denied that any**

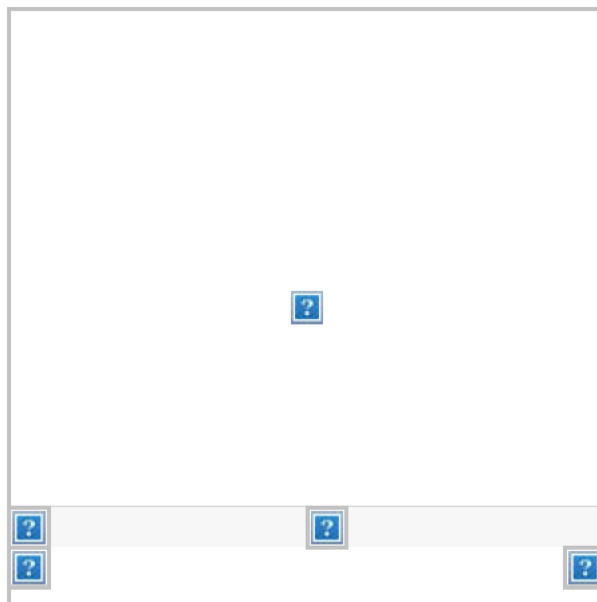
**inappropriate collusion ever took place.** In an interview with [Matt Zapotosky](#), McCauley acknowledged that he offered to do a favor in exchange for another favor, but before he had any inkling of what Kennedy wanted. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015. McCauley said that when he learned the missive concerned the attack on the U.S. diplomatic facility in Benghazi, Libya, he told Kennedy he could not help him. “I said, ‘Absolutely not, I can’t help you,’ and he took that, and it was fine,” said McCauley, who was the FBI’s deputy assistant director for international operations from 2012 to 2015.

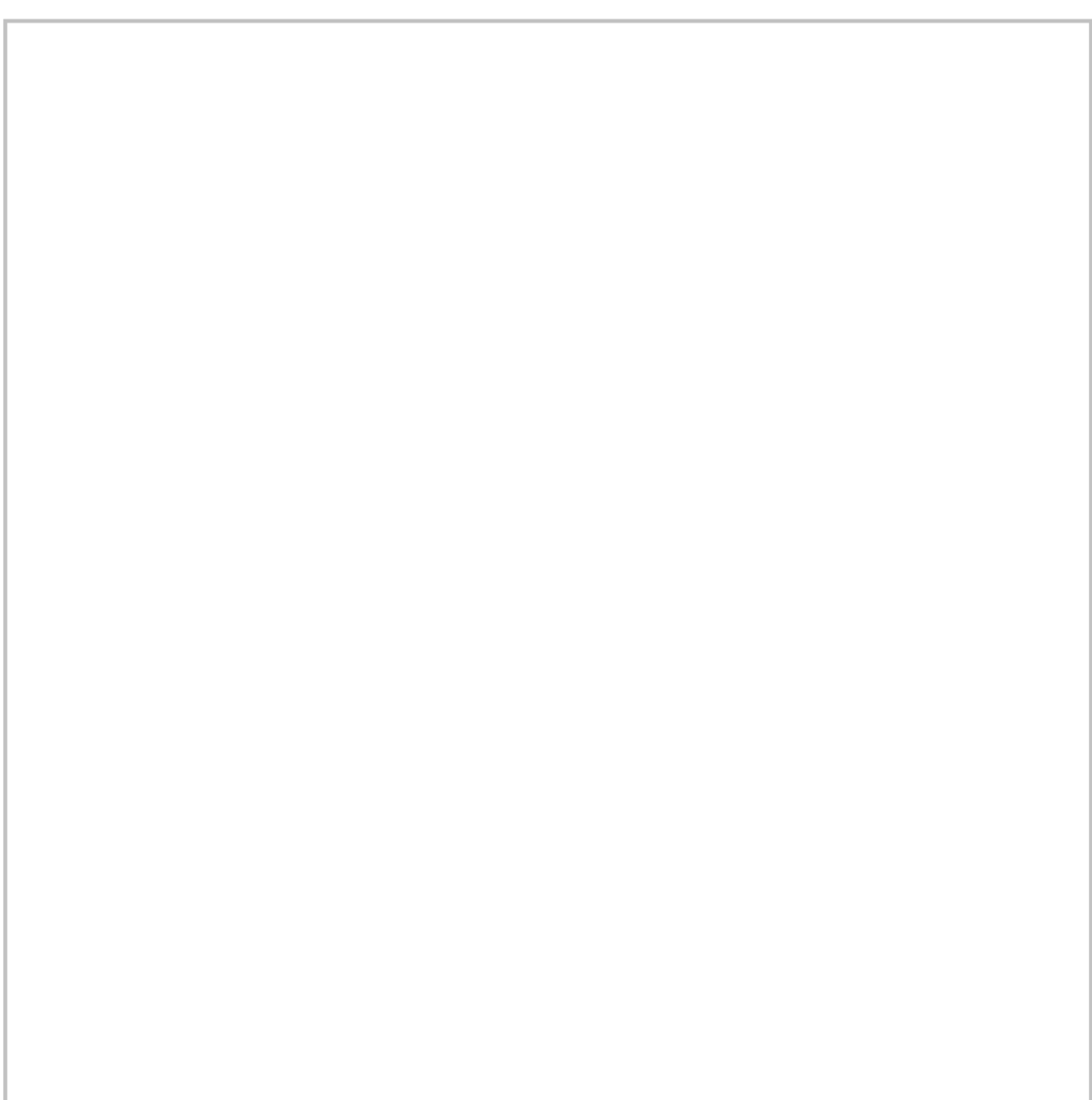
**-- “Black activists and organizers, frustrated with the Clinton campaign’s inability to engage young voters, have taken it upon themselves to challenge their peers to consider the consequences if Republicans take the White House,”** [Vanessa Williams reports](#). “They also have encouraged young voters to focus on state and local elections, because those officials make decisions about how police departments and schools are run, issues that more directly affect their lives. Younger African Americans, like many millennials, are not excited about this year’s presidential election ... [but] because Trump’s campaign has laid bare racist attitudes, the seeming indifference of black millennials to the election has sparked broad discussion within the African American community.”

**-- Seventy Nobel Laureates endorsed Clinton, arguing that her election is “crucial for safeguarding freedom and preserving a constitutional government.”** Signatories include world-renowned

experts in science, medicine and economics, such as chemist Peter Agre, economist Robert Shiller, and physicist Robert Woodrow Wilson. Separately, a group of 140 conservative writers urged voters to reject Trump, calling him “most dangerous to our nation’s founding ideals” in an open letter. Several former Republican White House staffers are on the list. ([New York Times](#))

ADVERTISEMENT





John Podesta boards the Clinton campaign plane in White Plains, New York, yesterday en route to Las Vegas. (Lucy Nicholson/Reuters)

-- **An early draft of Clinton's V.P. list:** John Podesta in mid-March emailed Clinton a preliminary list of names to consider for her running mate, organized into what he termed "rough food groups." WikiLeaks posted it yesterday, and [the Journal wrote it up](#):

The first group included her **Latino options**, including Secretary of Labor Tom Perez and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julián Castro.

The second consisted of **black candidates**, including Cory Booker and Eric Holder.

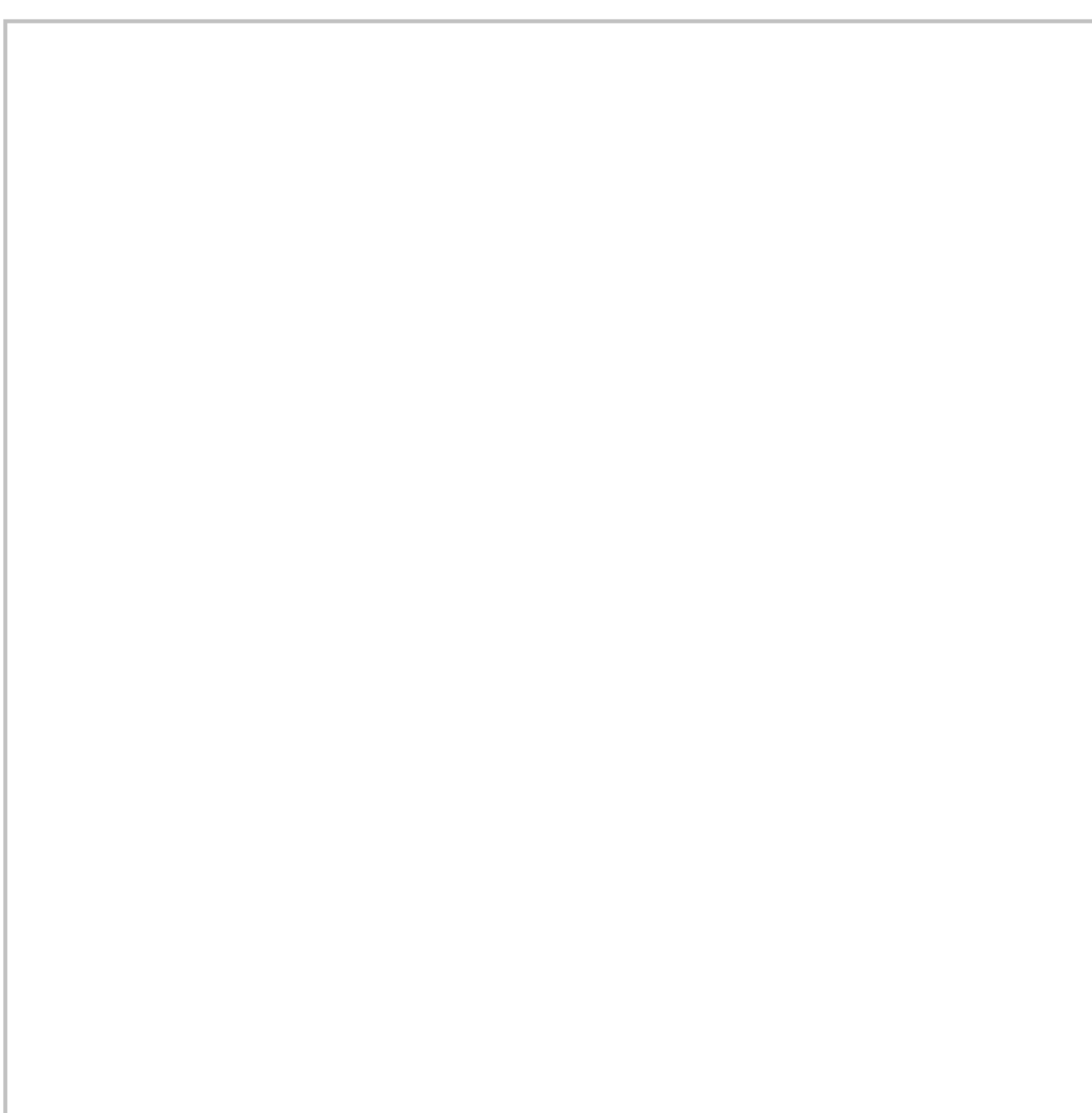
The third was **white men who could help in a swing state**, including Tim Kaine, Terry McAuliffe and Sherrod Brown.

Another section included **seven women**, including Elizabeth Warren and Jeanne Shaheen.

He also suggested **three military names**, including retired Marine Corps Gen. John Allen.

Podesta also floated **corporate options**, including Bill Gates, Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz, Michael Bloomberg; Apple CEO Tim Cook and Coca-Cola Co. CEO Muhtar Kent.

The final category had just one name: **Bernie Sanders**.



Melania, Ivanka, Eric and Donald Trump, Jr. wait for the start of the second debate St. Louis. (John Locher/AP)

## **THE DAILY DONALD:**

-- **People Magazine published six stories** from friends and colleagues of Trump accuser **Natasha Stoyneff**, corroborating her accusation that the **Republican nominee forced himself on her in 2005**. Two people who went on the record are now People editors - deputy East Coast editor Mary Green and East Coast editor Liz McNeil. Another is Stoyneff's former journalism professor, who says she called him looking for advice immediately afterwards. And

yet another friend went on the record to back her claims that she ran into Melania Trump on Fifth Avenue after the assault. The report comes as both Donald and Melania have denied the story and threatened legal action.

**-- Video surfaced yesterday of Trump attacking Condi Rice in 2006: "I wish she was a b\*\*ch," he said.** "I don't care if she's a lovely woman. I want somebody that can go and make deals. She goes to countries, nothing ever happens. Except sound bytes." When asked if she had any response to the New York Daily News report on Trump's remarks, the former secretary of state emailed [CNN](#): "Can't wait until November 9!"

**-- Trump's alleged misconduct has started a national conversation about sexual assault.** From [Katie Zezima](#): "The debate has been particularly painful for many victims of sexual assault, who now must endure nonstop coverage of allegations of groping and kissing without consent — along with backlash against the women who made the claims about Trump. But in the 2016 presidential election, the issue has become sharply divided along partisan lines, including claims by some Trump allies that the behavior described by Trump's accusers ... might not be considered assault. The resistance against the accusers is particularly awkward for the Trump campaign, which simultaneously argues that women who accused Bill Clinton of wrongdoing years ago should be believed." GOP strategist Ashley O'Connor said that Trump is essentially saying, "You need to believe the people who have come forward and accused [Bill]. You need to believe that [Hillary] was attacking these women. But don't believe the women who have come



forward against me.”

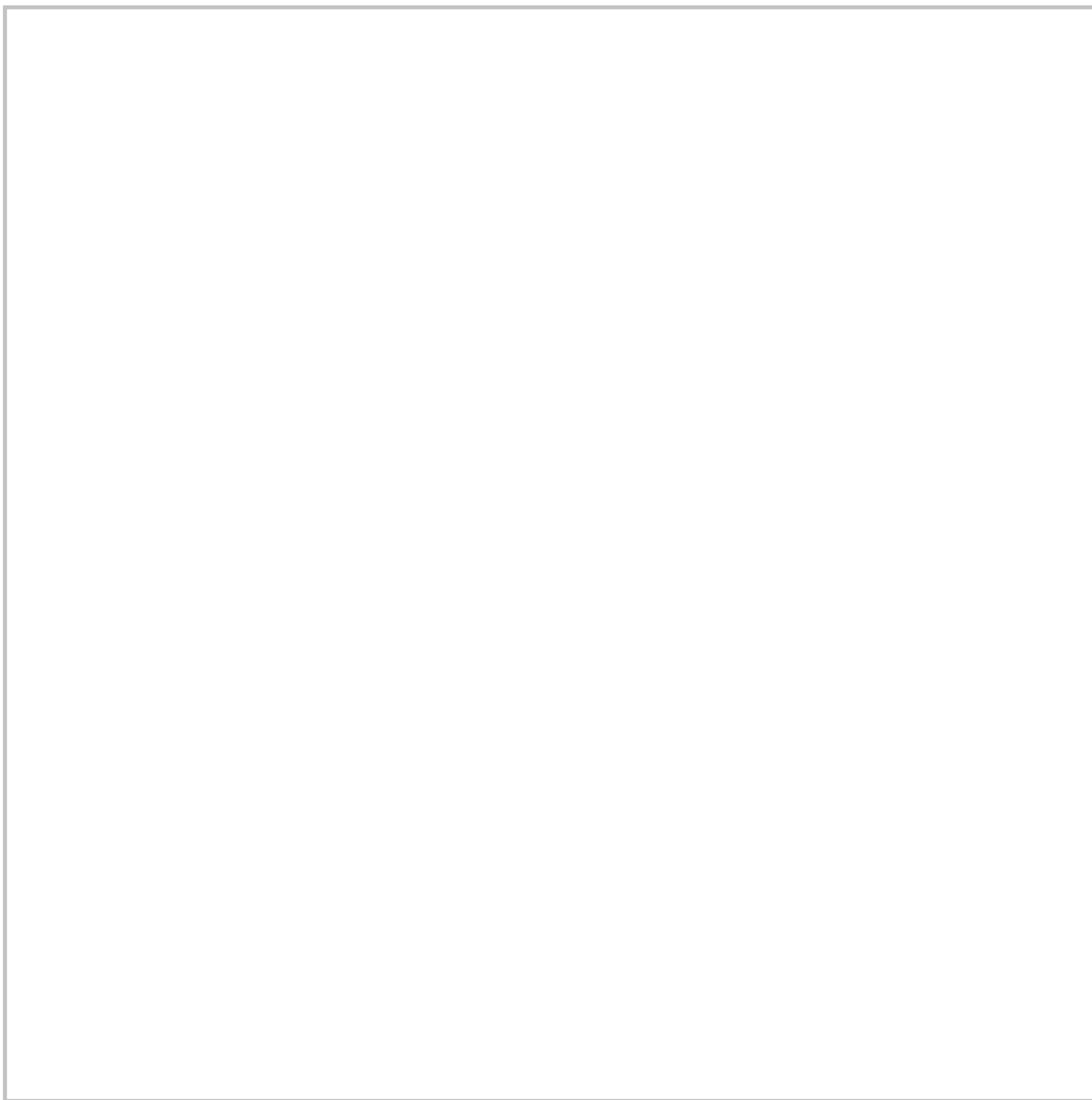
**-- Melania is taking a page from the old Hillary playbook:** “Until now, Melania Trump has declined to fulfill the mundane tasks of political wives, saying her duties to her young son are more important than the demand that a spouse go along for the ride to ‘humanize’ a candidate,” [Karen Tumulty writes](#). “Now, however, she has found herself in a time-honored duty for a political wife when a sex scandal hits — cleanup. [But] even as she defends her husband, [Melania] is willing to go only so far: In a moment where the script would appear to call for her to share a little more about ‘the man I know,’ she offered no personal glimpses of their lives. There was nothing more revealing than what one might hear in a campaign ad — outside, perhaps, her observation that she feels like she is living with two boys, not one.”

**-- Ivanka addressed her father’s lewd 2005 remarks for the first time, telling [Fast Company](#) that his conversation with Billy Bush was “clearly inappropriate and offensive.”** “I’m glad that he acknowledged this fact with an immediate apology to my family and the American people,” she added in a statement.

**-- Donald Jr. has made a series of offensive statements during interviews with shock-jock radio hosts.** CNN’s Andrew Kaczynski unearthed a [trove of controversial remarks](#) from the candidate’s son:

- **He joked about the Aurora movie theater shooting *on the same day 12 people were killed*:** After footage was played from a witness recounting the tragedy, Trump Jr. quipped that the survivor will still give the film “two thumbs up.”

- **He joked about child abuse at beauty pageants:** "They yell at the kids like, yeah 'You didn't do good, you forgot to turn! You forgot your turn!'" a host said, depicting the role of a stage parent. "The kids, they're crying," Trump Jr. said. "I just wanna play with Barbie." "She beats me when you're not here," said the host. "She's like limping," added Trump Jr., mocking a child's voice. "Help me, help me." **Trump Jr. added of the moms at beauty pageants, "They're all fat. Ugly."**
- **On not being able to mock overweight people:** "By the way you can't ... even make fat jokes now ... that's almost the worst one," he said. "It's easier to, like, do a racial thing, than it is a fat one because everyone knows they're fat and they get really offended."



Trump tells supporters to 'watch' St. Louis, Philadelphia and Chicago for voter fraud

**-- Doubling down on his rigged election rhetoric, Trump yesterday provided his supporters with a list of three cities where they should watch for corruption on Election Day.** "Take a look at St. Louis. Take a look at Philadelphia. Take a look at Chicago," Trump said in Colorado. "Look, look, if nothing else, people are going to be watching on November 8. Watch Philadelphia. Watch St. Louis. Watch Chicago, watch Chicago. Watch so many other places." (Two of those cities are in states that are not considered competitive, [Jenna Johnson notes](#).)

**-- Local election officials are panicking that Trump's reckless rhetoric will lead his supporters to bring guns to polling places, but they're mostly powerless to do anything about it:** "The Prince William County (Virginia) electoral board ... considered seeking a one-day ban on weapons at polling places located on private property but was rebuked by a gun-friendly state legislator," [Patricia Sullivan reports](#). "Del. Robert G. Marshall (R-Prince William) sent a letter to the board pointing out that it has no power to ban guns from polling places except for schools and courthouses, where weapons are prohibited by state law. ... Virginia's election officials have been discussing on their private email list the possibility of intimidation or violence Nov. 8 and talking about what to do about unruly observers. ... Seventy of Prince William's 91 polling places are in schools, with the remaining 21 in churches, fire halls and community centers. Firearms are allowed in county government buildings, such as fire stations, libraries and community centers."

**-- Trump called for a Constitutional amendment to put in place congressional term limits, but he provided no details about the details.** ([Jenna Johnson](#))



Supporters of Nicolas Maduro display a giant inflatable dummy depicting late President Hugo Chavez in Caracas. (Juan Barreto/Getty)

-- **Venezuelan journalist and political scientist [Francisco Toro](#) argues that Trump really is much more like Nicolás Maduro than Hugo Chavez:** “Again and again, since taking over in 2013, Maduro has run roughshod over the constitution in ways Chávez never dared to ... [and] for Venezuelans, the past year has been an object lesson in how dangerous this approach can be. Last week, we followed this crazy dynamic off the deep end, when the court overturned 800 years of constitutional practice, dating back to the original Magna Carta, ruling that when the constitution says the legislative branch has to

vote on the national budget, it means the president can just approve budgets on his own. ... **Having your democracy commit suicide under the lure of a charismatic demagogue is not the kind of experience you can fully make sense of unless you've lived it in your own skin.** Before 2016, no explanation I could give my American friends was enough. Now, my American friends can just turn on CNN and watch it happening live.”

### **THE BATTLEGROUND:**

-- **A civil rights group filed a federal lawsuit to force Virginia to extend its voter registration period, after the state's online system crashed on Monday.** The technological glitch prohibited registration from an unknown number of participants. Some have estimated the number to be in the “tens of thousands.” ([Laura Vozzella](#))

-- **Pro-Clinton super PAC Priorities USA announced it will begin airing ads in two Senate races and will start airing television and radio ads in Georgia to boost Clinton.** “New ads will support Gov. Maggie Hassan in the New Hampshire Senate race against Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte and Katie McGinty in the Pennsylvania Senate race against Sen. Patrick J. Toomey,” [Abby Phillip writes](#). “The super PAC also plans a new seven-figure television ad buy in Georgia in addition to new radio ads targeted at African American voters. The state has not been won by the Democratic presidential nominee since 1992.”

-- **DNC officials issued an apology after one of its campaign buses was recorded illegally dumping sewage into a Georgia**

**storm drain, calling the leak an “honest” but “unacceptable” mistake.** The driver of the bus – adorned with larger-than-life faces of Clinton and Kaine – said the vehicle’s sewage tank was full and leaking out. A guy in an auto parts repair store spotted him and record it. ([Katie Mettler](#))

**-- The race for Rep. Barbara Comstock’s House seat in Northern Virginia has tightened.** From [Jenna Portnoy](#): The Cook Political Report is moving the race up to toss-up, while the Rothenberg & Gonzales Political Report already considers it a toss-up district, tilting to the Republican. “Experts consider the district among the most competitive in the nation despite lackluster fundraising numbers from Democratic challenger LuAnn Bennett and evidence [Trump] might not be the anchor on down-ballot candidates some had expected,” Portnoy writes. The two will face off this morning for the final debate of the campaign.

**-- “[Clinton Challenges Trump for a Traditional Republican Bloc: White Catholics](#),” by the New York Times's Jason Horowitz in Philly:** “Since the election of Ronald Reagan, white Roman Catholics have flocked to Republican nominees for a raft of reasons, including their stances on social issues like abortion and same-sex marriage. But this year, something seems different. ‘Trump is the exception to the rule,’ said 67-year-old Carol Robinson, leaving an afternoon prayer meeting in Philadelphia. ‘He’s a loose cannon.’ Roman Catholics are the country’s second-largest religious group after evangelical Protestants, and they are as diverse as the country itself, with young liberals, cultural conservatives and, increasingly, Democratic-leaning Hispanics.”



**One quiet influencer could be Pope Francis**, wh emphasizes inclusion and the welfare of the poor over divisive issues like abortion and homosexuality. In February, he suggested Trump “is not a Christian.”

**-- Harry Reid reflects on when Trump used to be one of his donors in [an interview with Paul Kane](#):** “Reid found a priceless piece of memorabilia recently while sorting through 34 years of congressional papers. It’s a picture of Reid with [Trump], inside the real-estate developer’s Manhattan home, both men smiling. He’s pretty sure it’s from 1992, when [he] was running his first Senate reelection bid and when [Trump] was happy to help Democrats. Reid appreciated Trump’s generosity. ‘He wasn’t much of a big shot then, neither was I,’ Reid recalled ... Over the years when Trump was a reliable donor to Senate Democrats, Reid saw no signs of a future Republican presidential candidate who he would later eviscerate as a ‘racist’ and a ‘human leech.’ Now, heading into political twilight, the former boxer is clearly relishing what is essentially his last campaign through attacks on Trump ... ‘I’m kind of an unusual politician,’ he said.”





Libertarian Lucy Brenton, Democrat Evan Bayh and Republican Todd Young debate in Indianapolis last night. (AP Photo/Michael Conroy, Pool)

## **SENATE DEBATES:**

-- **“Indiana’s Senate race got personal Tuesday,” the [Indianapolis Star’s](#) Maureen Groppe and James Briggs write.**

“After weeks of attacking each other in campaign commercials, former Sen. Evan Bayh and GOP Rep. Todd Young directly accused each other of not representing Hoosiers’ interests in their [sole debate] ... Young repeatedly charged Bayh, a Democrat, with following the orders of Washington insiders and looking out for

himself. 'Evan Bayh took the money and ran,' Young said after criticizing Bayh's vote for the Affordable Care Act. 'He joined a major lobbying firm in Washington, D.C., and he represented clients that needed relief from the very problem he created from Obamacare.' Bayh said Young has voted against the needs of veterans, seniors and workers who are losing their jobs to overseas competition. And he accused Young of lying about his record. 'Congressman Young has told so many whoppers here tonight, it's hard to keep track,'" Bayh said.

**-- The final debate between Sen. Ron Johnson and Democrat Russ Feingold also turned personal, the [Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel's Bill Glauber reports](#):** "Skirmishing over campaign finance, national security, the economy and the presidential candidates, the men engaged in a feisty 90-minute clash ... With polls showing a tight race, there was little room for error as the candidates sought to shore up their base support while reaching out to the small number of undecided voters. In a sense, the debate was six years in the making as the two men entered the closing stretch of their rematch race. Throughout the debate, Feingold claimed that Johnson 'didn't have a plan' on issues. Johnson fired back, 'Senator Feingold is always going to have a plan to grow government.'" "I will stand with the people of this state," Feingold said. "Senator Johnson stands with the corporations, the billionaires and the multi-millionaires." In rebuttal, Johnson said he "understands what it's like to work": "I'm the working man," he said. "I've worked hard all my life."



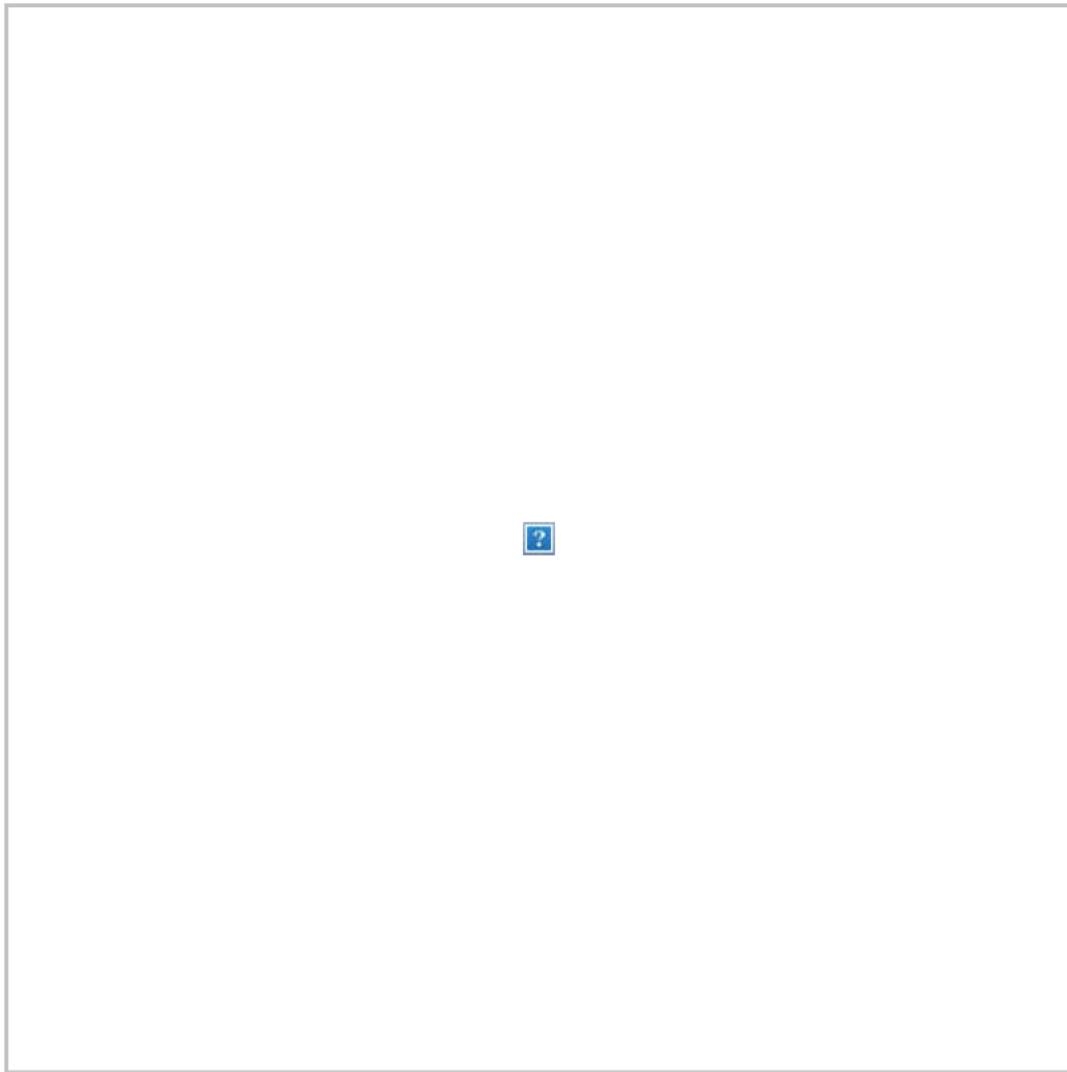
A pan handler sits with a "Give me \$1 or I'm voting for Trump" sign in Manhattan.  
(Carlo Allegri)

### **IT'S SILLY SEASON:**

**-- A Wisconsin woman was arrested after she spread peanut butter on 30 cars that she believed belonged to Trump supporters. But it turns out the cars actually belonged to members of a local conservation club!** "Witnesses said 32-year-old Christina Ferguson stormed into the club meeting on Monday night, holding what a Portage County deputy's report described as a 'family-size jar of low-sodium, creamy natural Jif,'" [HuffPost](#) reports. "Officers

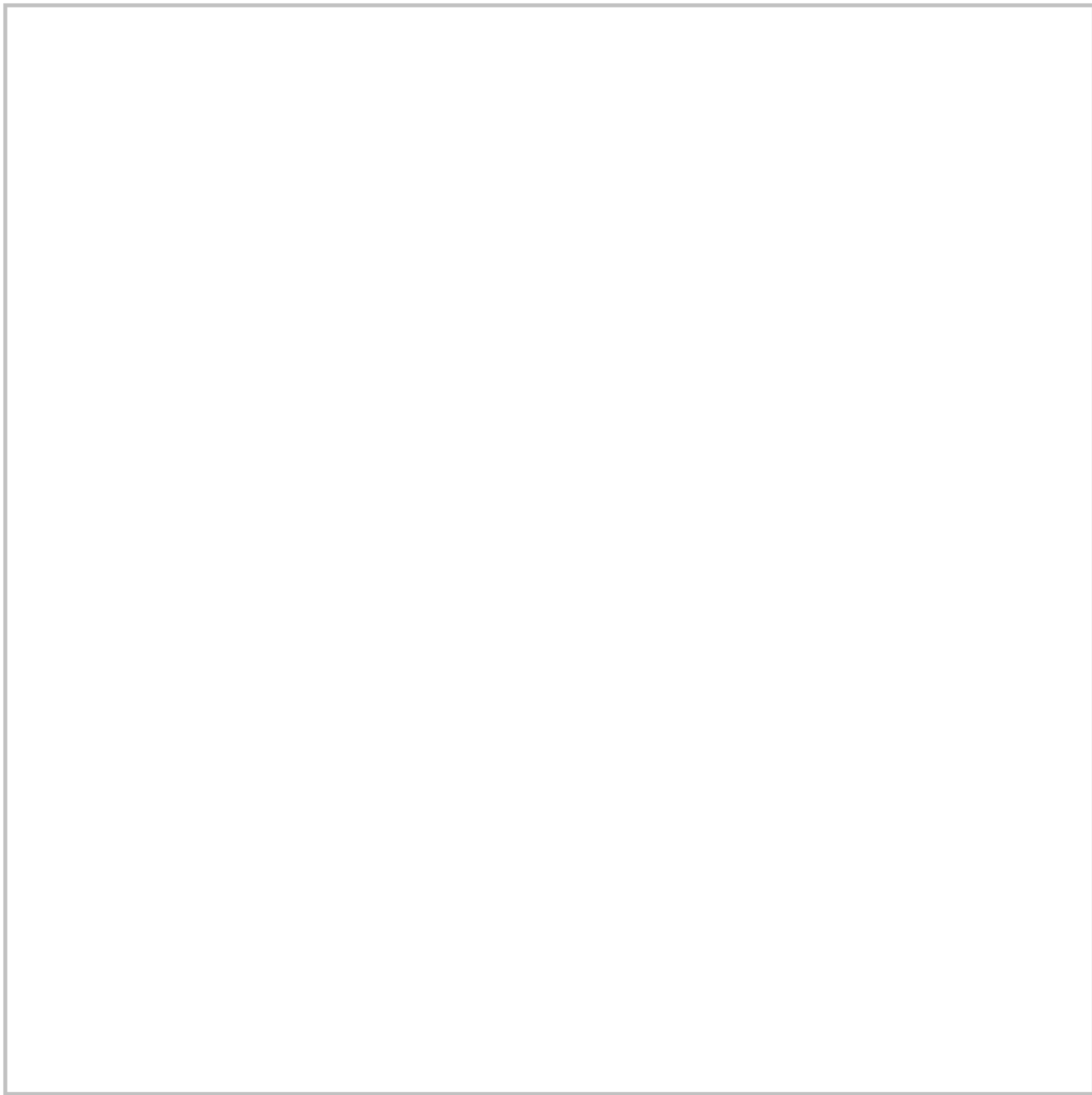
said Ferguson grew emotional as she explained how much she loved Clinton and hated Trump. She then explained why she'd misused peanut butter. 'Peanut butter is better than fire-bombing,' the officer quoted her as saying. She added that Trump wants to fire-bomb everybody in other countries."

**-- A naked, hoofed statue of Hillary prompted a scuffle in Manhattan. An outraged Clinton supporter destroyed it while the artist tried in vain to save it, the [New York Post](#). (Travis Andrews)**



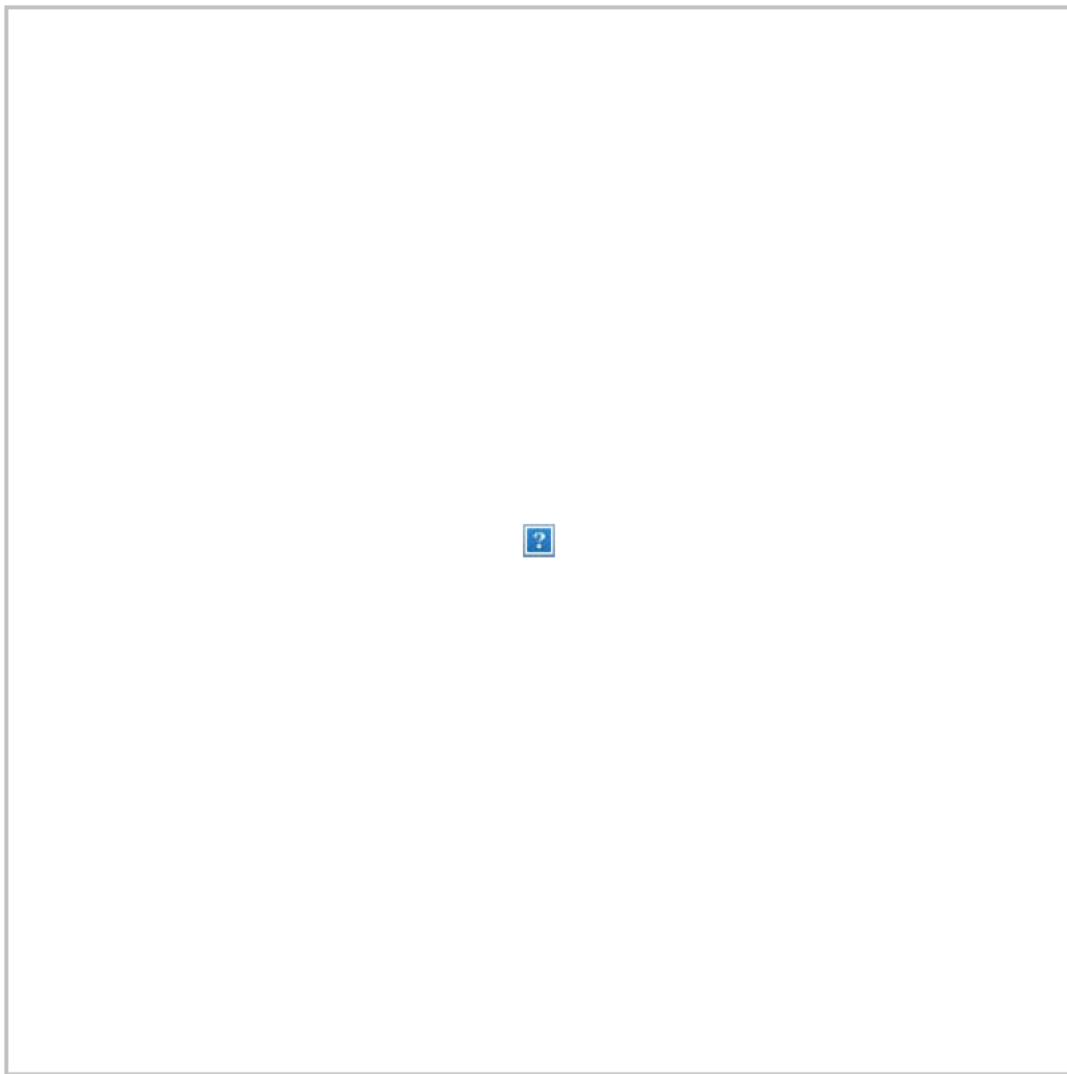
**SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:**

**Over 62 million people on Facebook in the U.S. posted about, shared, liked or commented on content related to Trump over 931 million times in the last month.** The chart below shows the unique number of people on Facebook engaging in the conversation about each candidate – as well as the number of interactions those people generated. Interactions represents the total aggregate number of likes, posts, comments and shares made about a particular candidate within the timeframe. The interactions figure includes not only the activity on the candidate's page, but all of the likes, posts, comments and shares about that candidate from throughout Facebook:

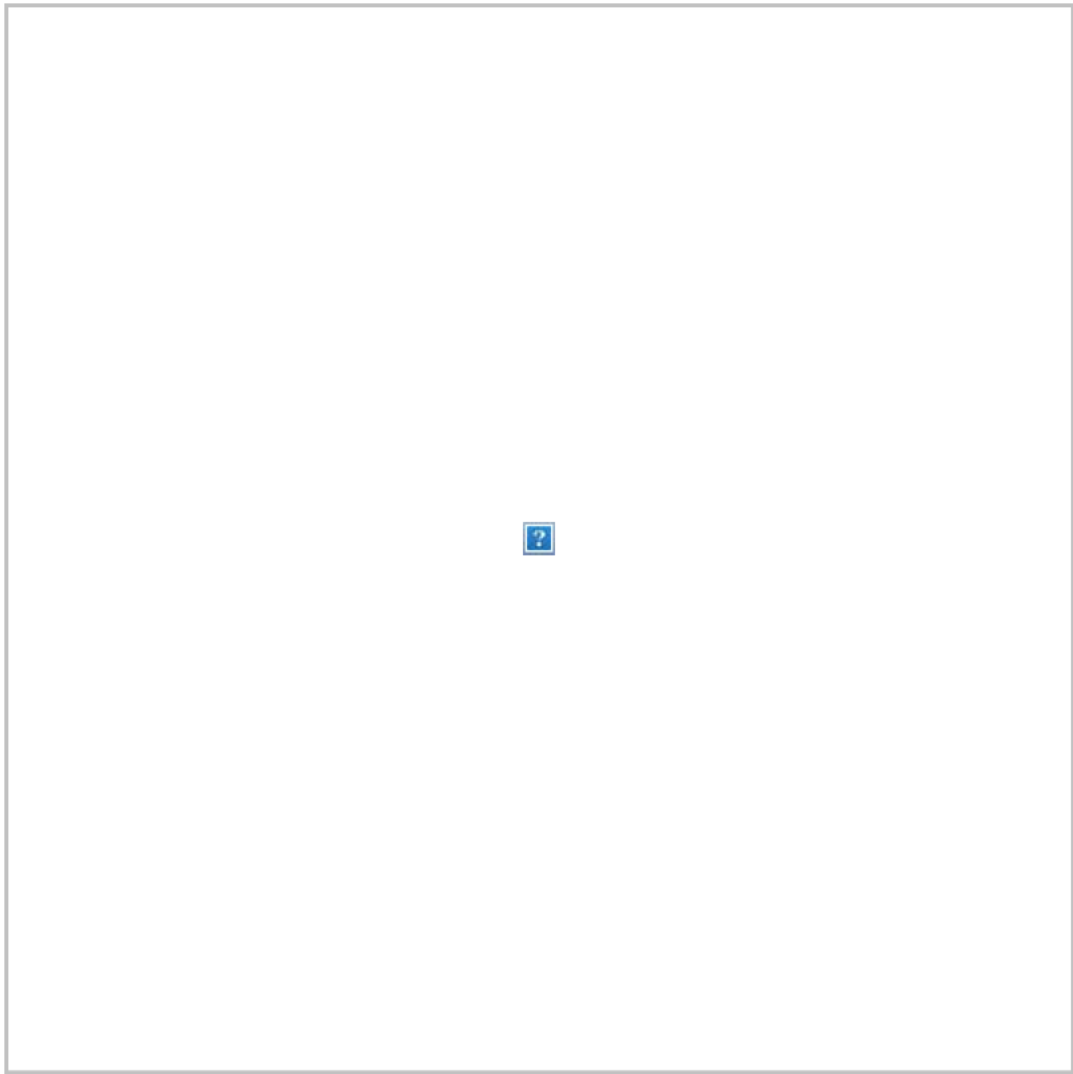


**The top five most talked about political topics on Facebook over the past month:** 1. Crime & Criminal Justice; 2. Religion; 3. Taxes; 4. Government Ethics; 5. Racial Issues.

The Onion is on the lookout for late-breaking Trump news:

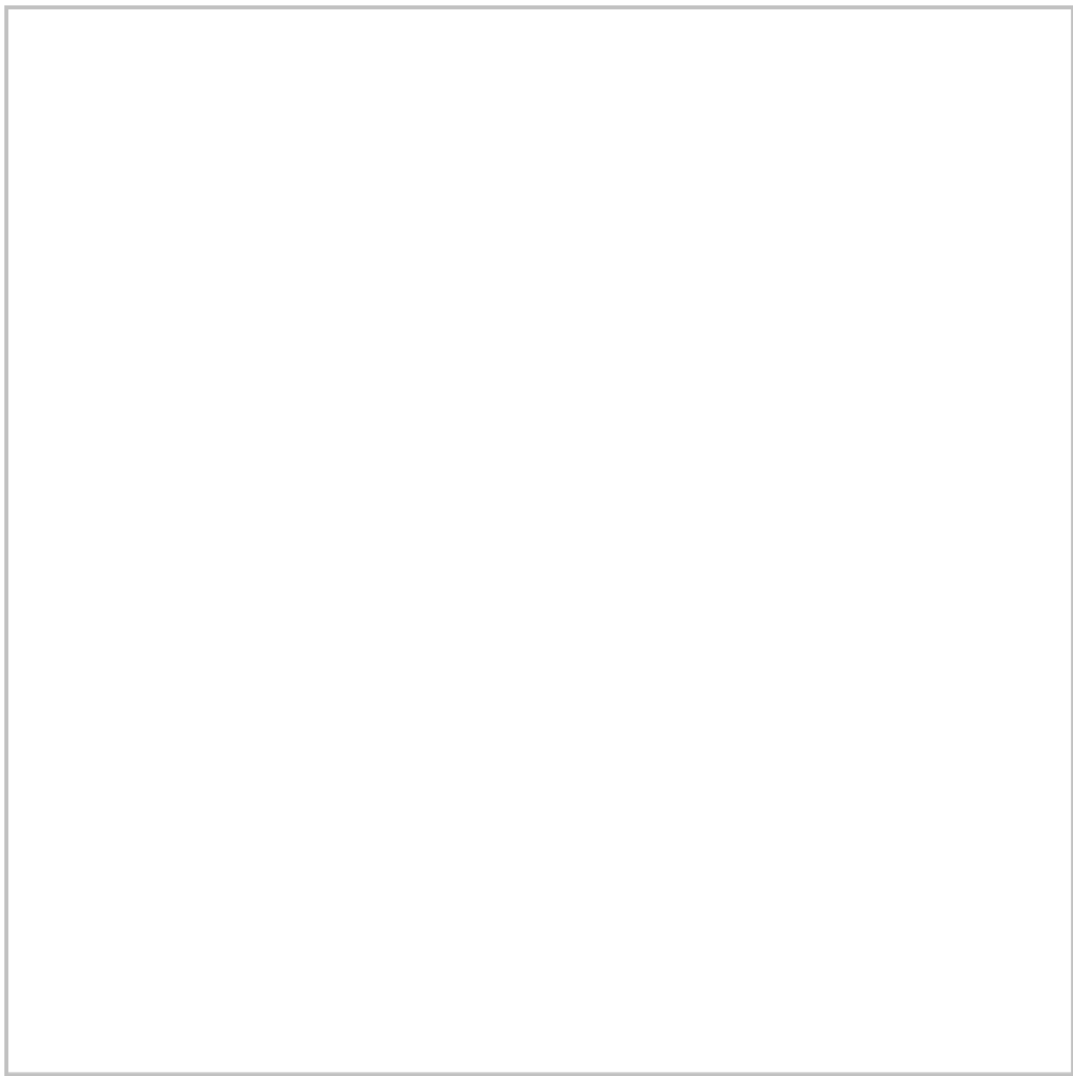


Coming soon to a Las Vegas billboard:



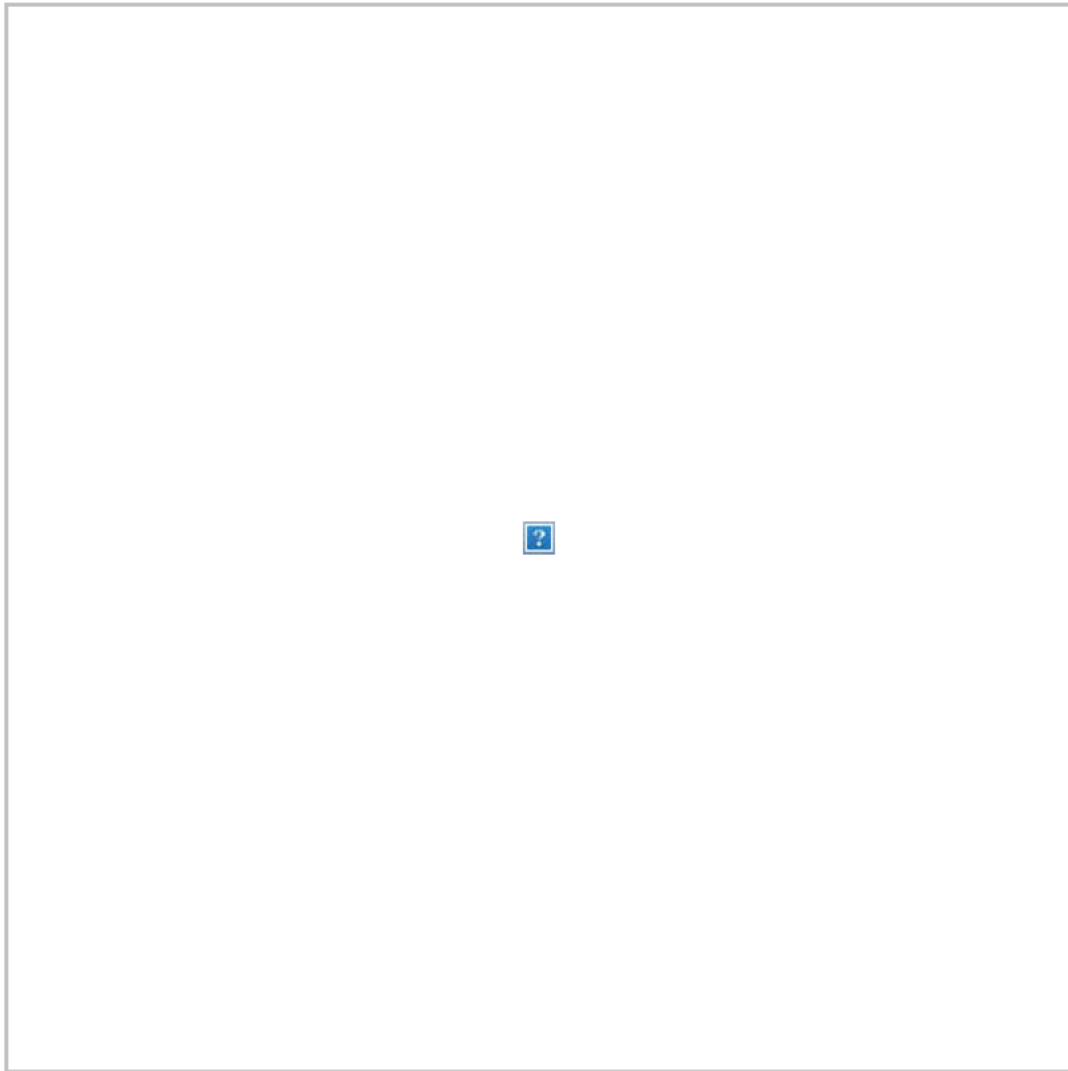
Fox's Sean Hannity and CNN's Brian Stelter went back-and-forth on the issue of voter fraud:



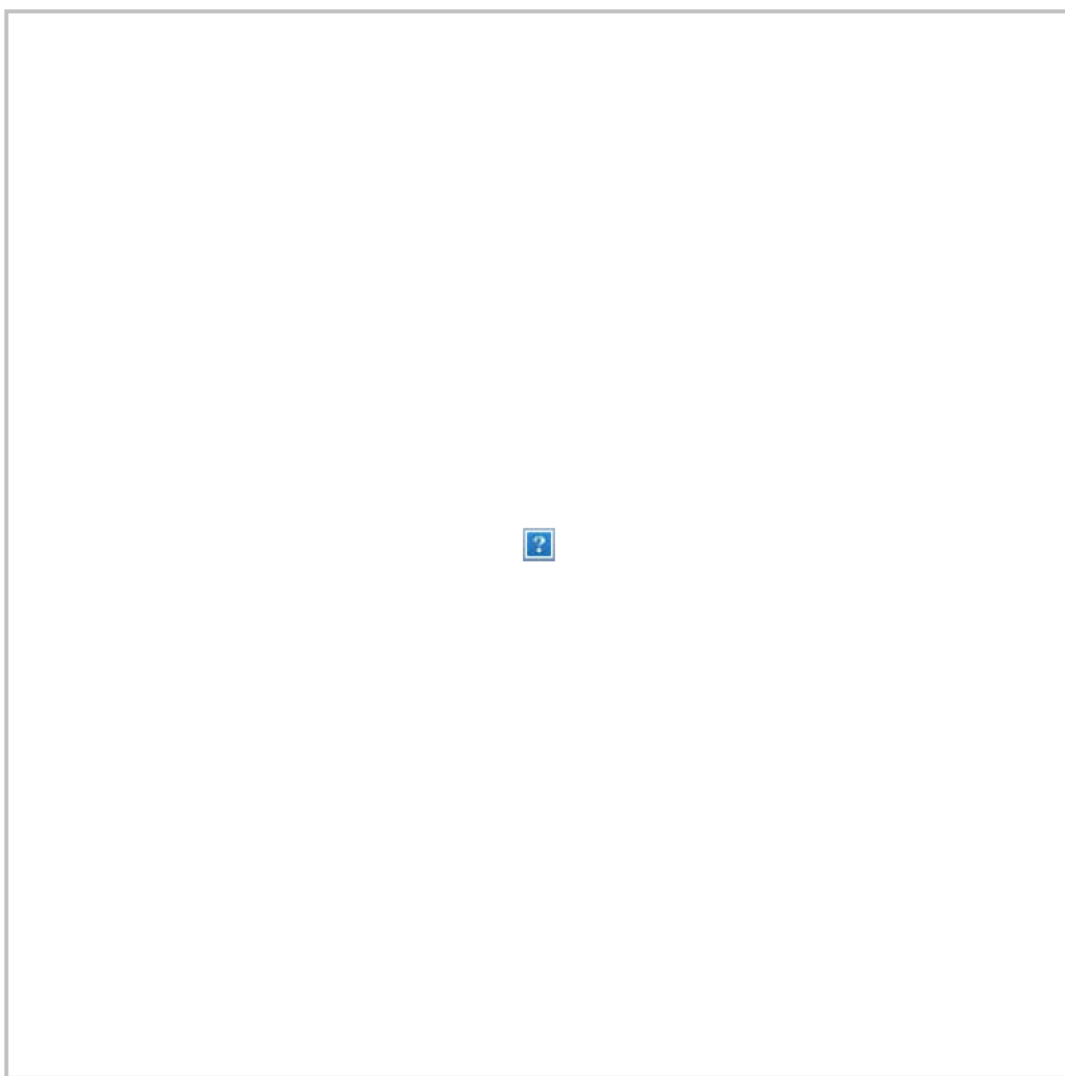


Mike Pence observed some of the damage from the firebombing in North Carolina and called it "an act of political terrorism":

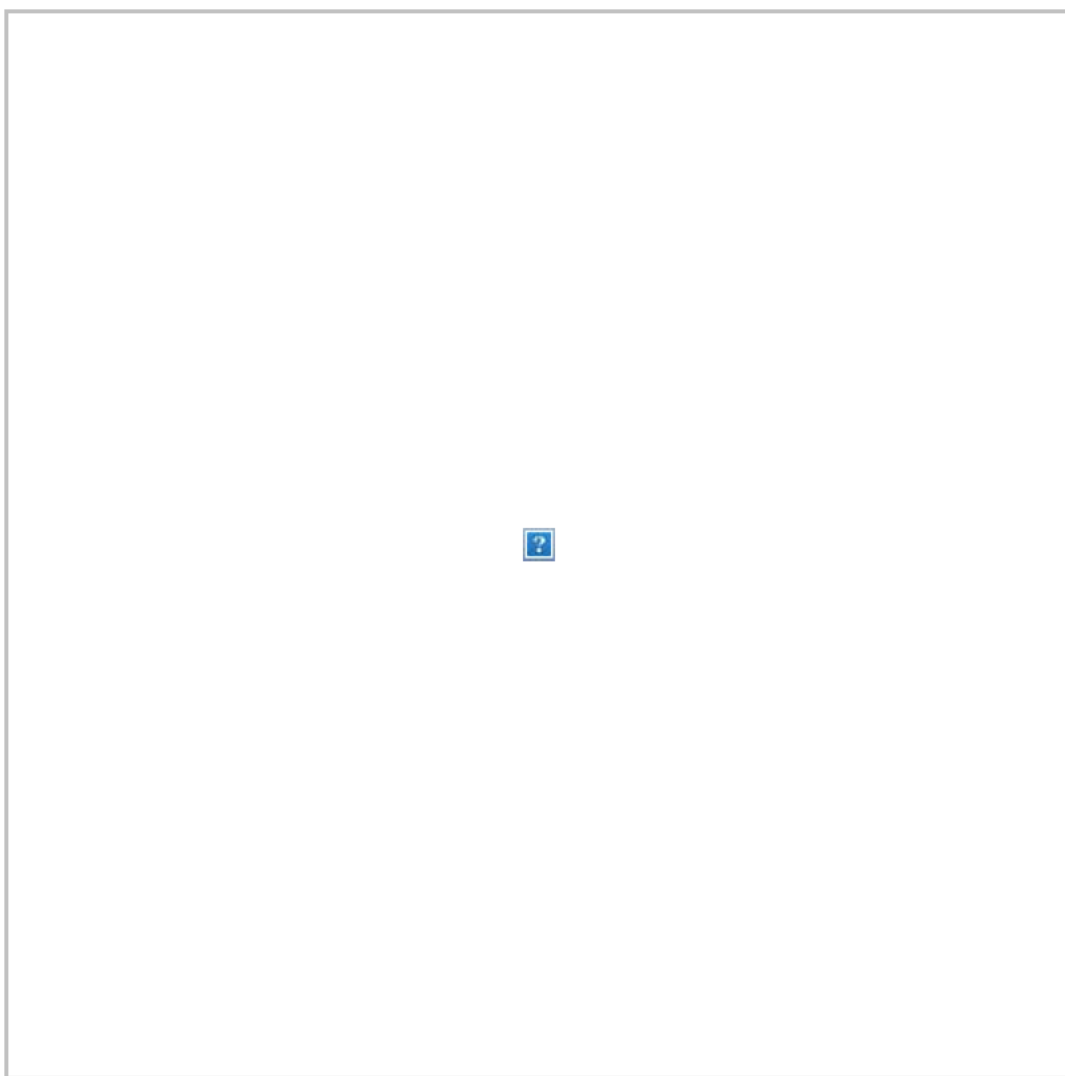
[Vogue endorsed Clinton](#), making the first ever political endorsement in the magazine's history. "We understand that Clinton has not always been a perfect candidate, yet her fierce intelligence and considerable experience are reflected in policies and positions that are clear, sound and hopeful," the magazine's editors write.



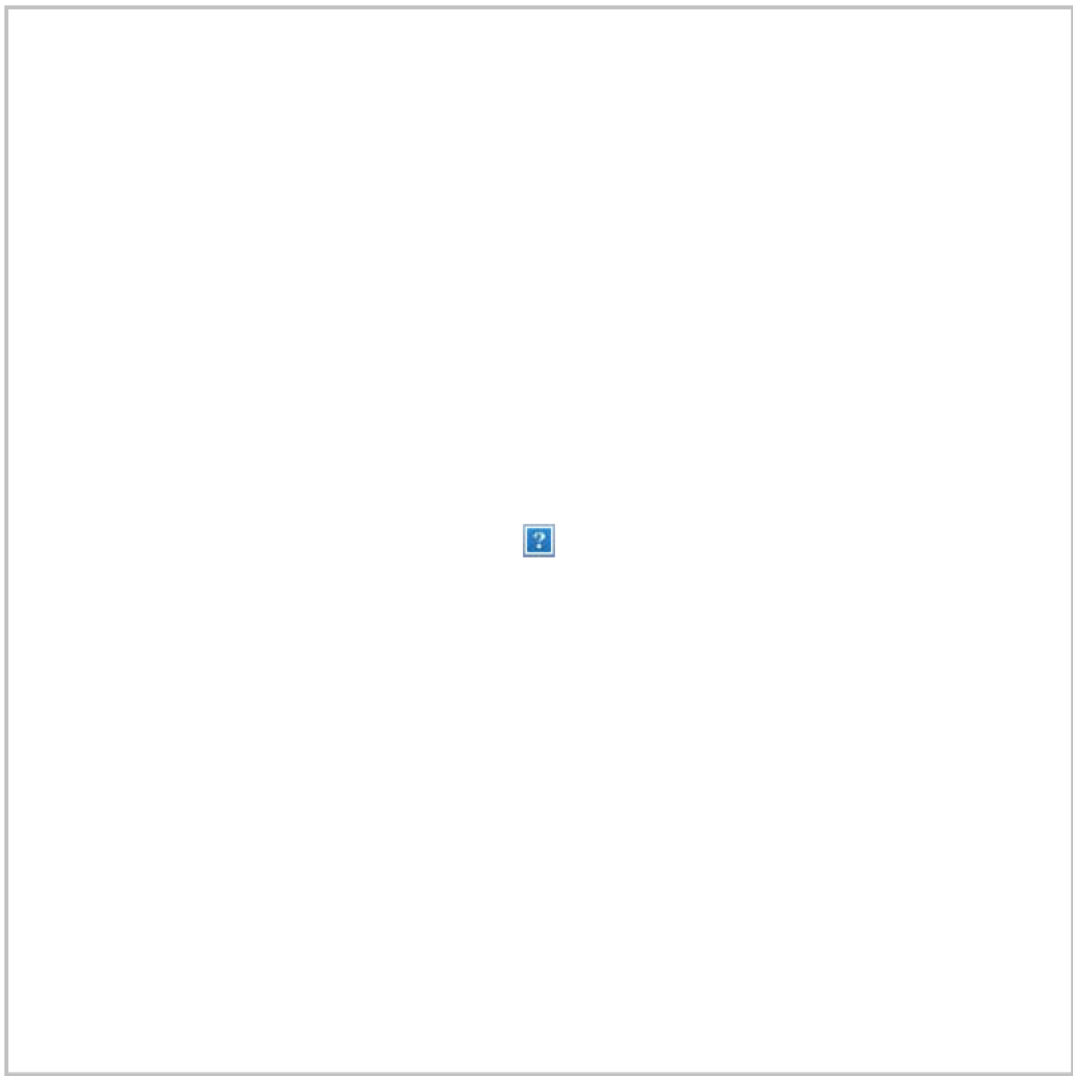
This is pretty funny:



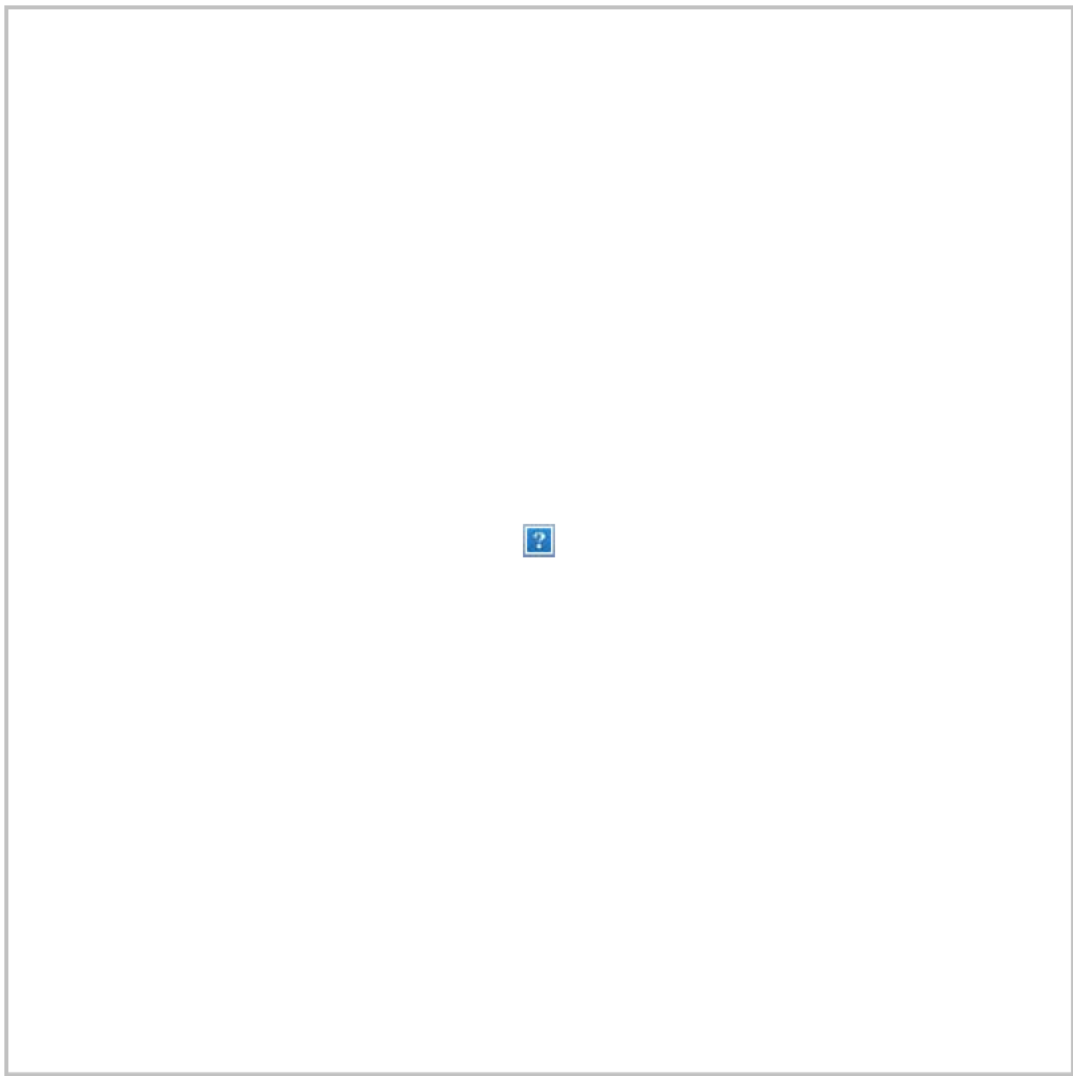
Wyclef Jean posted this photo:



Debra Messing got a thank-you note from the White House:



Jason Chaffetz took this selfie while camping:



Kevin McCarthy went to a Dodgers game:



### GOOD READS FROM ELSEWHERE:

-- New York Times, "[David Letterman \(and His Beard\) Shop at Target These Days](#)," by Dave Itzkoff: "Why does David Letterman have a beard? To put it more precisely: Why did Mr. Letterman, after stepping down from CBS's 'Late Show' and a 33-year career ... spend the past year and a half cultivating a fleecy and prodigious mound of facial hair ...? Did he grow these imposing bristles to keep the world at bay while he withdrew into retirement?" Was it his way of saying he was no longer the man who had spent 6,000 evenings reading Top 10 lists and interviewing 20,000 guests? **Actually, he**

**explained, 'I just got tired of shaving every day, but then it became something else, and I'm not quite sure what it became.'**

In his dry Midwestern delivery, tinged with a new and unaccustomed element of wistfulness, he said: 'The beard is a good reminder to me that that was a different life. I'm hopeful that I will either find something else, or something else will be presented to me.' ... With years of vitality left, he has been trying, since his 'Late Show' farewell in May 2015, to figure out what his next step should be."

**-- National security reporter Walter Pincus prepared a list of pressing foreign policy questions that Trump and Clinton should answer in tonight's debate.** Some highlights from [his column for the Cipher Brief](#):

- **For Trump, on Russia:** "At the last debate, despite your being briefed by intelligence analysts and after Director of National Intelligence James Clapper publicly identified Russia as doing the hacking, you said [Clinton] 'doesn't know if it's the Russians doing the hacking,' and then added, 'Maybe there is no hacking.' Do you not trust the U.S. intelligence community determination ... that the Russians are behind the hacking of the [DNC] emails?"
- **For Clinton, on Syria:** "You are advocating a no-fly zone and safe zones. Define just what would be involved on the part of the U.S. and its allies – including forces in the air and on the ground [for protection] ... Would you seek congressional authorization to use American armed forces which will have to strike at Syrian government targets, something normally considered an act of war?"



**For Trump, on Syria:** On Oct. 9, you said “Syria is no longer Syria. Syria is Russia and it’s Iran.’ You also said Assad forces and the Russians in Syria were fighting ISIS, and implied if you were president you would no longer support any anti-Assad forces. Instead you would join with the Russians, Iranians and Assad regime in fighting ISIS. Would that be your policy for Syria? And if the Assad regime, supported by Russian and Iranian military forces, attempted to regain control over all of Syria, would you stand aside and let that happen?”

## HOT ON THE LEFT

## HOT ON THE RIGHT

**Two little known but influential Democratic operatives lost their jobs after edited footage from a video sting by conservative activist James O’Keefe found them entertaining “dark notions” about how to win elections. From Dave Weigel: “Footage from the video shows [Scott] Foval, a Wisconsin-based politico with a long resume, bragging about a litany of political dirty tricks. In the first video, he boasts of ‘conflict engagement in the lines of Trump rallies,’ takes credit for the violence that canceled a Trump rally at the University of Illinois in Chicago (and) **admits****

**he's paid 'mentally ill' people to start trouble."**

Robert Creamer also announced he is stepping down from the work he was doing for a progressive consulting group following release of the tape. On Tuesday night's episode of "Hannity," two campaign representatives said that the tapes "validated everything" Trump had said about the possible threat of the election being stolen.

#### **DAYBOOK:**

**On the campaign trail:** Trump and Clinton debate in Las Vegas. Tim Kaine speaks in Upper Arlington and Springfield, Ohio and Asheville, N.C.; Bernie Sanders rallies Clinton supporters in Reno, Nev. Pence speaks in Durango, Colo.

**At the White House:** Obama has no public events scheduled. Biden speaks about the Cancer Moonshot at the SAP Global CEO Summit in New York. Later, he travels to Boston to speak again about the project at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute.

**On Capitol Hill:** The Senate and House are out.

#### **QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

Obama mocked Trump for griping about a rigged election: "You start whining before the game's even over?"



## NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:

-- “A solidly summerlike day, with partly to mostly sunny skies and noticeable humidity,” the [Capital Weather Gang forecasts](#).

“Highs head for the mid-80s, with light winds from the west-southwest around 5-10 mph. The record highs to beat for the day? — 88 at DCA, 83 at Dulles, and 82 at BWI.”

-- The Wizards [beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 96-91](#).

-- The [Capitals beat the Colorado Avalanche 3-0](#)

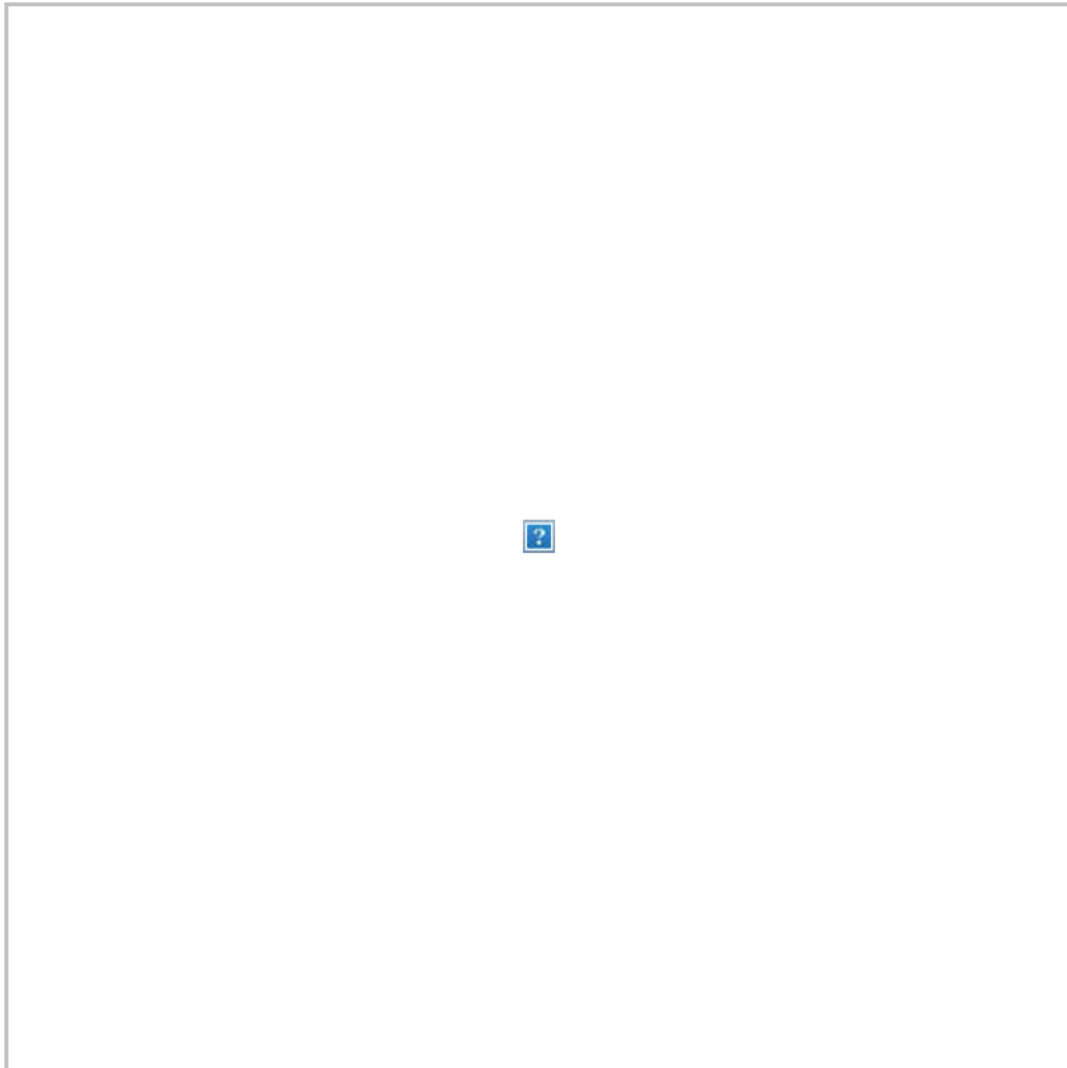
-- A Richmond federal appeals court agreed to postpone oral arguments in a case over the Washington Redskins’ trademark registration, further delaying a long-running case that pits the NFL team against the U.S. patent office and Native Americans groups find the team’s name insulting. ([Ian Shapira](#))

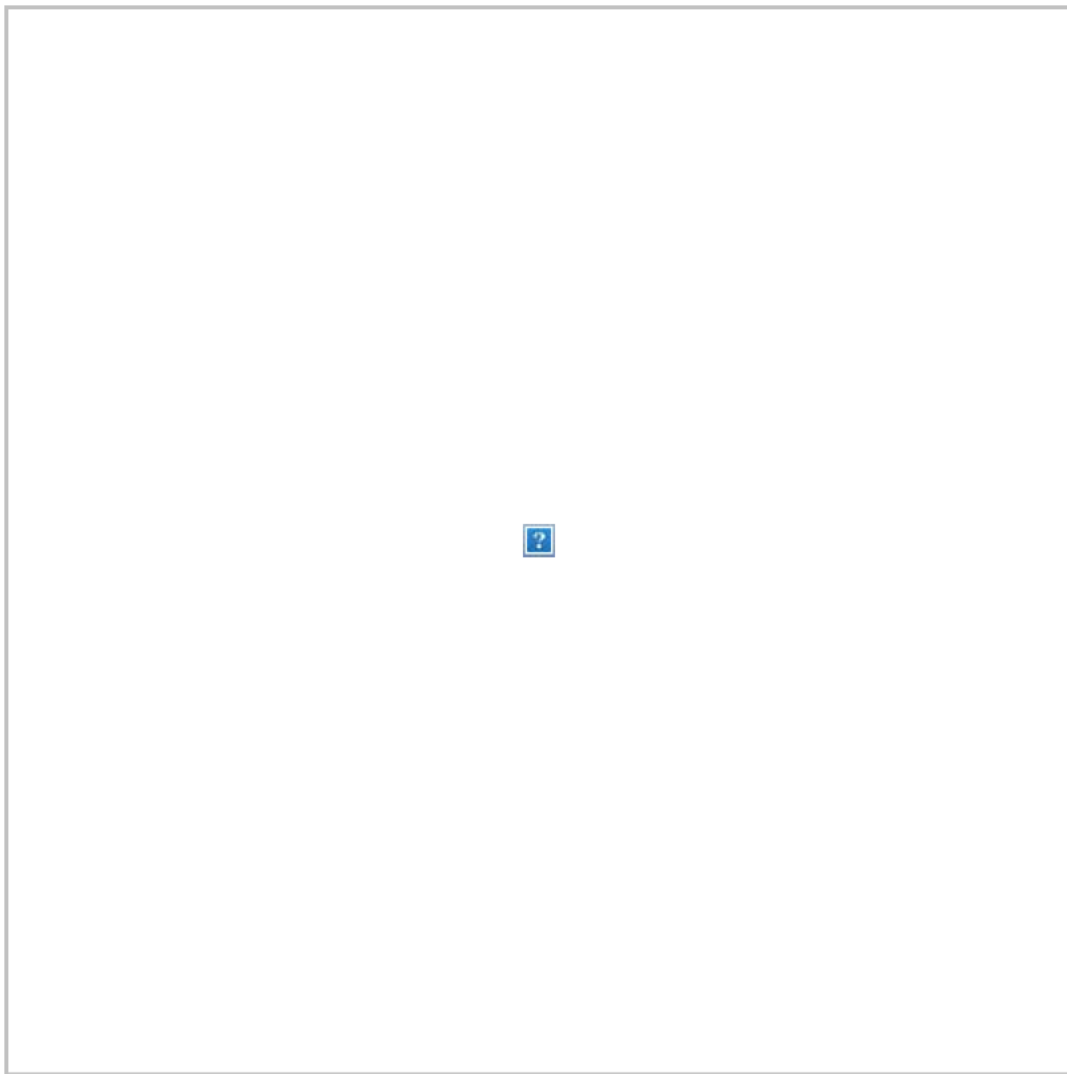
-- A high school senior was fatally stabbed on a D.C. Metrobus Tuesday evening, reportedly following a long-running dispute with another young woman over a cell phone. Police said the suspect has been taken into custody and charged. ([Peter Hermann](#))

-- Marriott International announced plans to relocate its headquarters to downtown Bethesda, deciding to remain in Montgomery County after getting commitment on a \$62 million publicly funded initiative. ([Jonathan O'Connell](#))

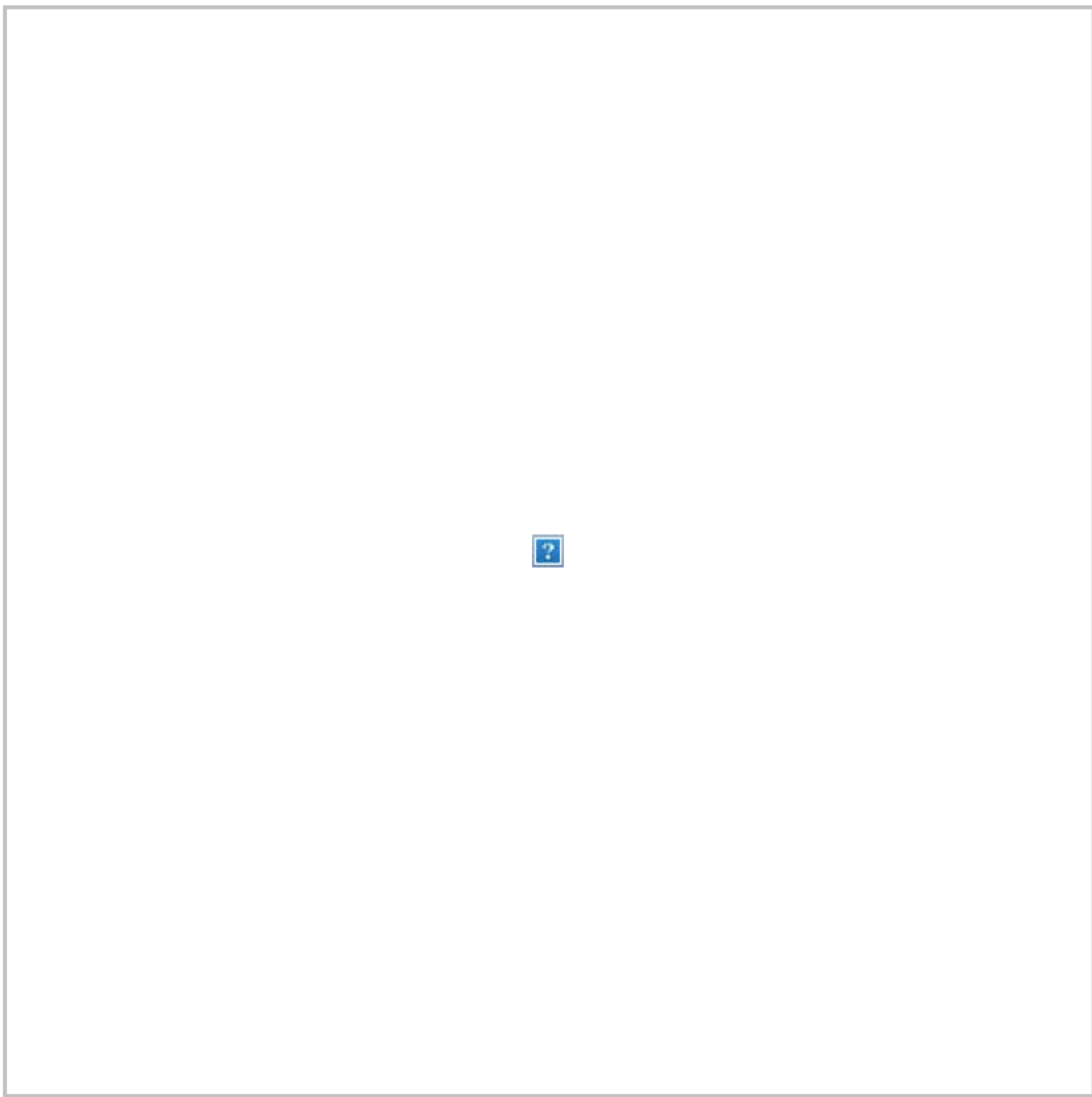
## VIDEOS OF THE DAY:

Tony Award-winning actress Laura Benanti [returned to “The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” last night](#) to reprise her [spot-on parody](#) of Melania Trump — this time with some uncomfortable Billy Bush references:



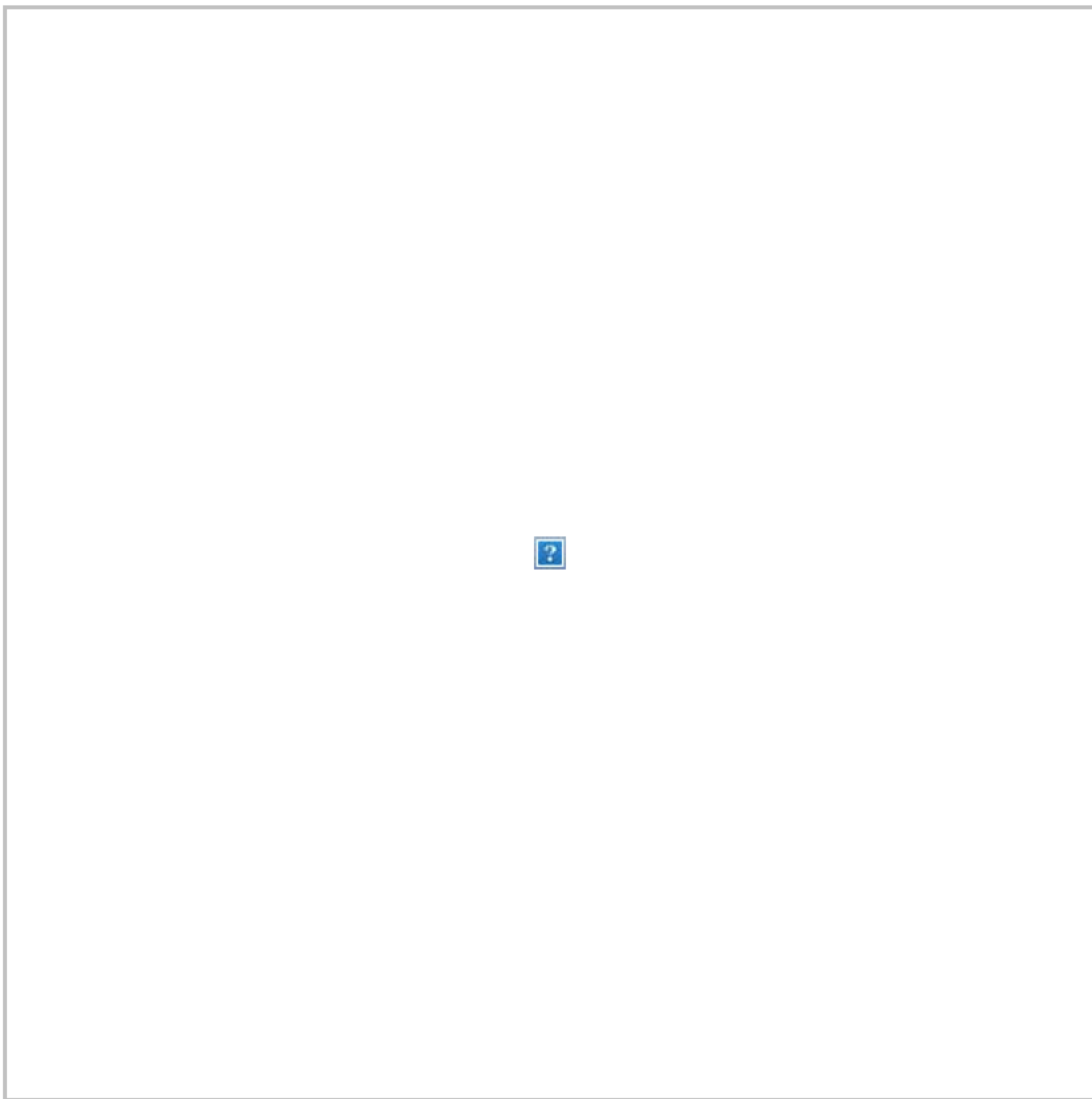


Watch as celebrities arrive at the White House for the Italian state dinner:



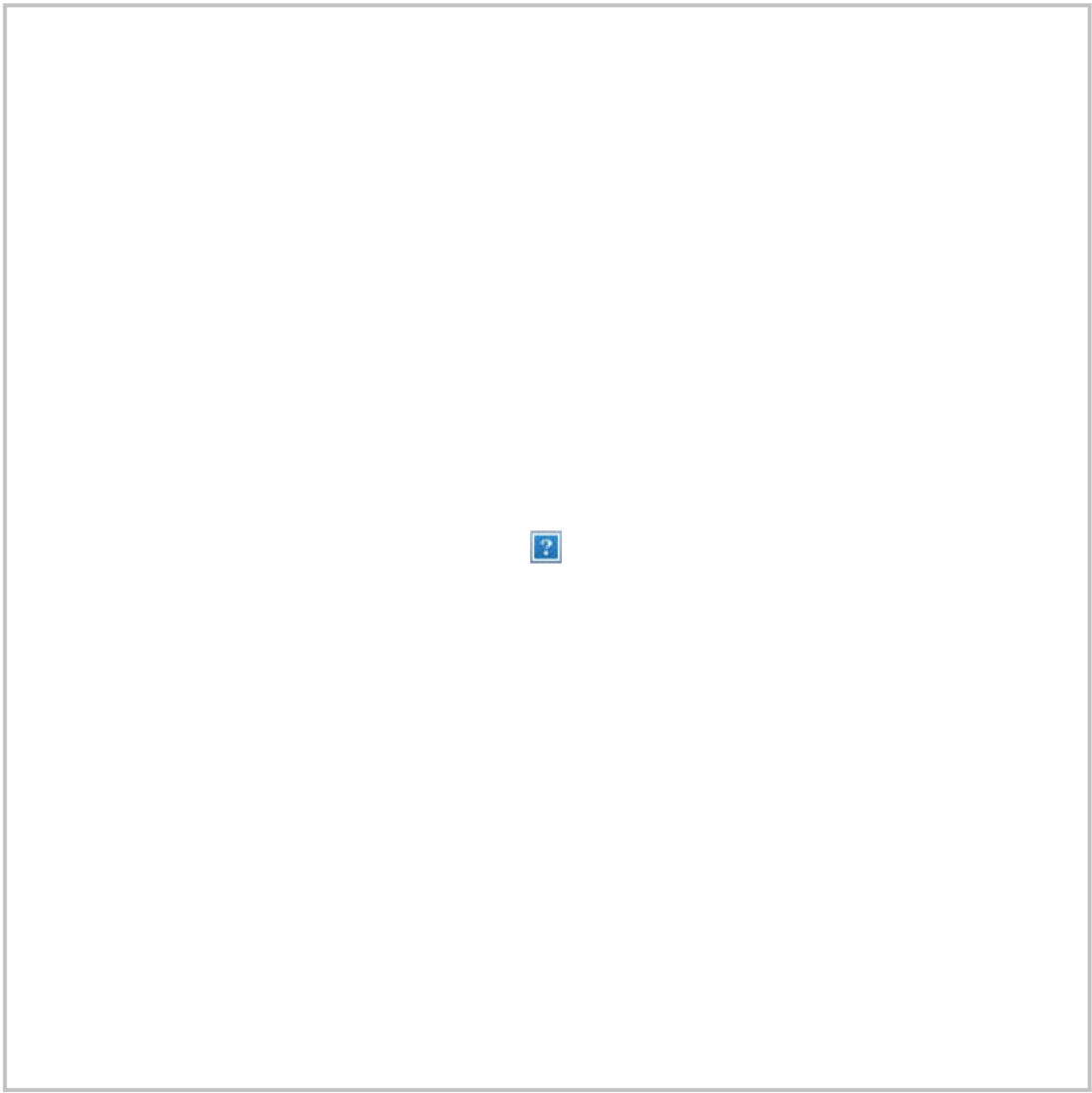
Celebrities arrive for Italian state dinner

"Dreamer" Juan Salazar, who came to the U.S. when he was seven, contemplates what's at stake in this election for him and his undocumented family members:



A family in fear: 'Us being separated...is just devastating'

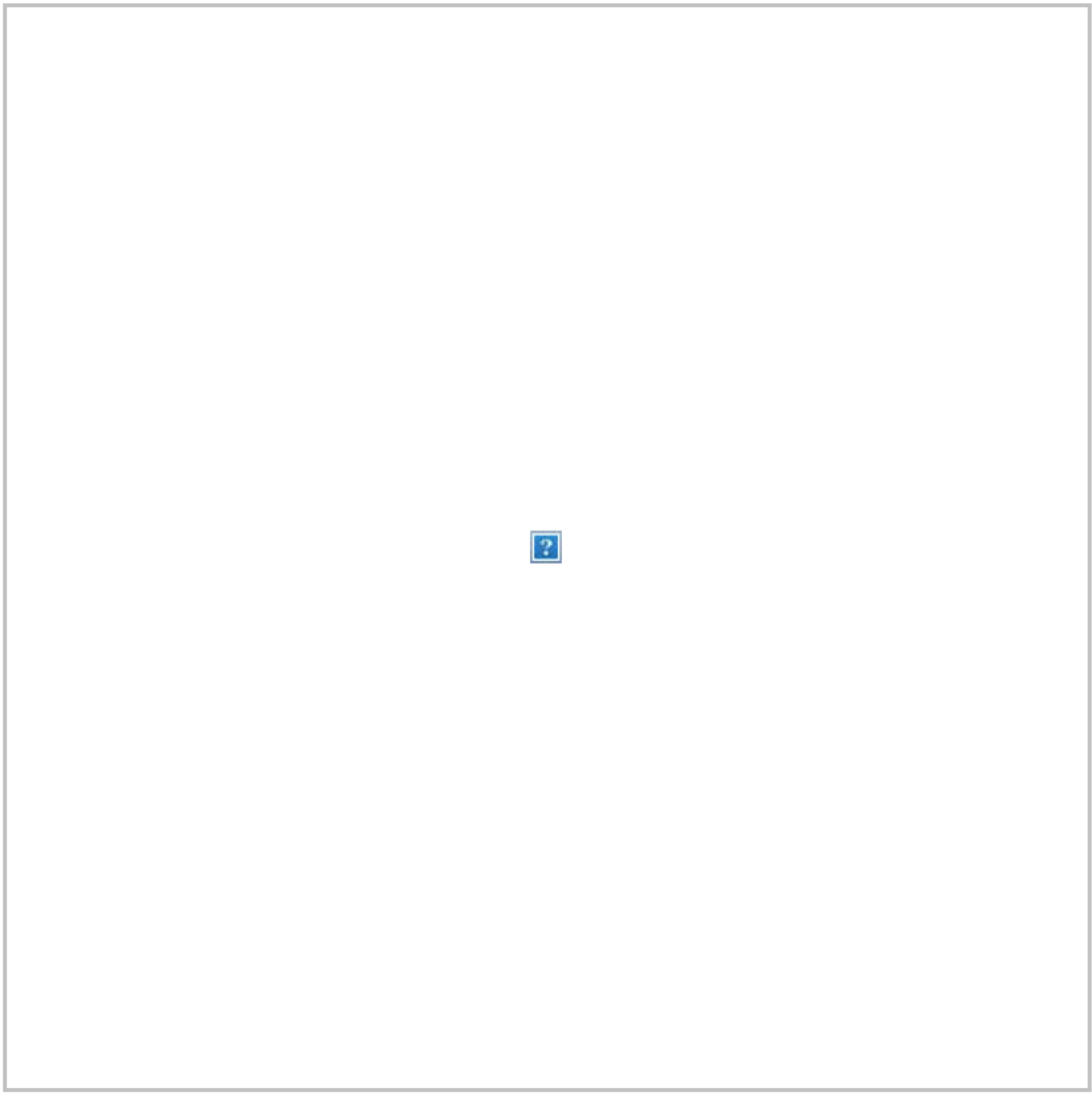
Judy Shepard, whose son Matthew Shepard was murdered in Laramie, Wyoming, in 1998, because he was gay, cut a 1-minute spot for the Clinton Super PAC Priorities USA. "I know what can happen as the result of hate," she says to camera. "So when I see the hate that Donald Trump has brought to his campaign for president, it terrifies me. ... Words have an influence, violence causes pain, hate can rip us apart. I know what can happen as the result of hate, and Donald Trump should never be our president."



Hate

Bloomberg made an Ocean's Eleven-style explainer about whether the election is rigged:





Ocean's Election: Rigging the System, Vegas-Style

Kathy Griffin taped a video against Trump (warning: profanity):